LYNCHING RECORD FOR 1922

December 31, 1922

For release January 1, 1923

Dear Sir:

I send you the following concerning lynchings for the past year as compiled at Tuskegee Institute in the Department of Records and Research, Monroe N. Work in charge. I find, not including those killed in strikes, riots, etc., that there were 57 persons lynched in 1922. This is 7 less than the number 64 for the year 1921. Thirty of the persons lynched were taken from the hands of the law; 13 from jails, and 17 from officers of the law outside of jails.

I also find that there were 58 instances in which officers of the law prevented lynchings. Fourteen of these instances were in Northern States and 44 were in Southern States. In 54 of the cases the prisoners were removed or the guards were augmented or other precautions taken. In the 4 other instances, armed force was used to repel the would be lynchers. In ten instances, convictions carrying penitentiary sentences were secured against alleged lynchers.

Of the 57 persons lynched in 1922, 51 were Negroes and 6 were whites; 19 or one-third of those put to death were charged with rape or attempted rape; 6 of the victims were burned to death; 4 were put to death and then their bodies burned. The charges against those burned to death were murder, 2; rape, 4.

The offenses charged against the whites were: murder, 2; fighting, 1; charges not reported, 3. The offenses charged against the Negroes were: murder, 9; murderous assault, 4; rape, 14; attempted rape, 5; killing officer of the law, 3; horse stealing, 2; being intimate with woman, 2; no special charge, 2; killing man in altercation, 1; striking man in quarrel, 1; robbing and striking a woman, 1; cattle stealing, 1; using insulting language, 1; for being a strike breaker, 1; mistaken identity, 2; indecent exposure of person and frightening woman and children, 1; intimidating officer of the law, 1.

The ten States in which lynchings occurred and the number in each State are as follows: Alabama, 2; Arkansas, 5; Florida, 5; Georgia, 11; Louisiana, 3; Mississippi, 9; Oklahoma, 1; South Carolina, 1; Tennessee, 2; Texas, 18.

Very truly yours,
/S/ R. R. Moton
Principal

Compiled by Monroe N. Work, Director
Department of Records and Research
Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

Lynching - 1922
Cases of

1135

Alabama

N. Y. C. JOURNAL
JANUARY 12, 1922

NEGRO LYNCHED NEAR EUFAULA, ALABAMA

By Universal Service

EUFAULA, Ala., Jan. 12—The body of a negro who was lynched was discovered riddled with bullets lying beside the road four miles from here.

He is alleged to have insulted a white woman at Batesville, near here and to have threatened her husband. He was placed in the county jail by citizens last night, and later was reported to have escaped.

NEGRO LYNCHED; INSULTED WOMAN, SHERIFF ASSERTS

Atlanta Constitution

Eufaula, Ala., January 11.—Willie Jenkins, a young negro, was shot to death near Batesville last night when he made a dash for freedom after being arrested on a charge of insulting a woman, according to the sheriff of Barbour county.

The body had not been recovered, the sheriff said. Persons who saw the body described it as being "riddled with bullets," according to the officer's statement, and when last seen two men on horseback were carrying it toward the Chattahoochee river.

Negro Done to Death By Mob Near Eufaula

EUFAULA, Ala., January 11.—A negro, whose name has not yet been learned, who is alleged to have insulted a white woman of Batesville, near here, and threatened her husband, with violence, was lynched four miles from Eufaula Tuesday night on the Batesville road, it was learned Wednesday.

The negro was captured by citizens of Barbour County and placed in jail Tuesday night. Later it was reported he had escaped. A search resulted in the finding of the negro's body riddled with bullets lying beside a road several miles out of the city. An investigation was being conducted by county authorities.

BODY OF EUFAULA NEGRO IS LOCATED

Montgomery Advertiser

(Special to The Advertiser)

EUFAULA, ALA., Jan. 14.—The body of Willie Jenkins, negro, reported to have been lynched Tuesday after he had used insulting language to a white lady, was located today in an old well on the old Davis place about five miles out of town.

Chief Brannon has been searching for the body ever since it was reported that the negro had been shot by the white men after he had fled to Georgia, and only today were his efforts rewarded with success.

The negro had been shot five times and his body thrown into the old well. The body has been turned over to friends for burial.

N. Y. C. JOURNAL
JANUARY 13, 1922

NEGRO LYNCHED NEAR EUFAULA, ALABAMA

EUFAULA, Ala., Jan. 13.—The body of a negro who was lynched was discovered riddled with bullets lying beside the road four miles from here.

He is alleged to have insulted a white woman at Batesville, near here, and to have threatened her husband. He was placed in the county jail by citizens last night, and later was reported to have escaped.

Lynchers on The Delaware Rampage in Alabama

Wilmington Advocate

Montgomery, Ala., Oct. 12.—John Brown, a Negro fireman, was taken from his home shortly after midnight by a mob and lynched, according to the report of police. Not Lynched

Believing that Joe Terrell, colored, arrested today at Union Springs for the killing of George Wilson, game warden, and Deputy Sheriff Partin Saturday night, was in the county jail here, more than 1,000 persons gathered about the jail tonight. The National Guard was called out and a heavy guard was placed about the building.

County officers had announced that Terrell, who had been brought here from Union Springs, later had been taken away, but declined to state where he was being imprisoned.

The mob gathered at 8 o'clock when the report was scattered about the city that the Negro had been removed. Herbert Miller, a white man, was shot in the hip when several shots were fired in the mob.

Negroes And Whites Shot in Riot.

Negro Star Wichita, Kan.

(By The Associated Negro Press)

MONTGOMERY, AIA., Oct. 13—Edward Pearl, Negro was shot in the back and killed; Herbert Miller, white was shot in the hip, and a score of Negroes were beaten and dragged out of street cars during a race roit here last Sunday night. 10/13/22

National guard troops were called and streams of water were shot into a mob of more than 1,000 that besieged the county jail in an effort to seize a Negro prisoner, the second in forty-eight hours to be charged with the slaying of an officer of the law.

John Brown, a Negro fireman, was taken from his home shorlty after midnight and lynched, according to the report of the police.

NEGRO IS RIDDLED BY CRENSHAW COUNTIANS FOR SLAYING FARMER

Rec

One of Three Blacks Implicated in Death of Hosia Brogden Killed

Montgomery Advertiser 12-4-22

2 ESCAPE FROM POSSE

Prominent Citizen of Gantt Brained Attempting Peacemaker's Role

Advertiser Bureau
Andalusia, Alabama
By Oscar Dugger.

Mob violence reigned in the vicinity of Harlan's gin house, just over the Crenshaw county line today, where George Teague, negro, was killed and his body riddled with bullets, according to reports, and his two sons were in hiding after the killing at 11 o'clock last night of Hosia Brogden, prominent farmer, resident of the Happy Hollow district a few miles from Gantt, in the midst of an argument between the negroes.

Mr. Brogden, with a negro who worked on his farm had carried the three blacks to a negro festival near the widow Well's place, also near Gantt, intervened and was attacked by the elder Teague with a knife while one of the sons, most generally thought to be Essic Teague struck Mr. Brogden in the back of the head with a heavy black jack, fracturing the skull and causing almost instant death.

Sheriff H. B. Gantt, with county and city officials who were reinforced by many volunteer citizens from the neighborhood rushed to the scene soon after the report reached here shortly after midnight, the killing occurring at 11 o'clock last night.

Mr. Brogden was a brother of Hiram J. Brogden, recently elected probate judge here and has two other brothers who reside on neighboring farms to his.

Friends and relatives throughout the county and state were enraged upon learning of the horrible catastrophe, and it was reported at the sheriff's office here this afternoon that hundreds of armed men from over the county were about the scene where the two younger negroes alleged to have been implicatd are said to have made their temporary escape from the officers.

It seems that George Teague had separated from his wife some few weeks ago and that after arriving at the scene of the negro social last night he went to the home of his former wife to take her to the party, which request was refused and a fight ensued. Mr. Brogden and his negro employee endeavored to quiet the disorder and both were attacked by the Teague negroes, all of whom made a hurried getaway to where they were found this afternoon, heavily armed. The elder negro was killed according to reports, and the other two were still being sought by officers at a late hour this afternoon.

Friends of the deceased farmer and his bereaved family and relatives will mourn deeply the loss of this highly respected citizen of the county. Funeral announcements will be made later.

(Special to The Advertiser)

LUVERNE, ALA., Dec. 3.—The body of George Teague, one of the negroes implicated in the death of Hosia Brogden, a prominent white farmer of Crenshaw county, was brought to town today after he had been riddled with bullets when a posse attempted to arrest him about nine miles south of here. Posses headed by the sheriff of Crenshaw county, the sheriff of Covington county and several individually arranged parties are scouring this section of the state for the two sons of George Teague who are charged with complicity in the killing of Mr. Brogden.

The negro killed this morning was sent up from this county about sixteen years ago on a charge of assault to murder and served 2 years of a five year sentence. The body was turned over to local negroes for burial.

LYNCHING IN CRENSHAW COUNTY CAUSES GOVERNOR TO OFFER REWARD FOR MOB MEMBERS.

The Mobile Forum 12/3/22

Special to the Mobile Forum.
Montgomery, Ala.

Reports that citizens of Covington county had gone into Crenshaw county and lynched George Teague, Negro, charged with the murder off Hose Brogden, white farmer, caused Governor Kilby Monday to issue a proclamation offering a reward of $250 for the arrest and conviction of each person responsible for the death of Teague, in another proclamation Governor Kilby offered a reward of $250 each for the arrest and conviction of Essick and Tucker Teague, sons of George Teague, who are charged with complicity in the murder of Brogden.

Citizens of Covington county asked the governor to offer the reward for the arrest of the Negroes while conflicting reports regarding the killing of George Teague caused the governor t obelieve that justice demanded the arrest of the persons responsible for his death. Grogdenwas killed near Gantt and Teague and two sons were charged with the killing. Shortly afterwards George Teague was found in Crenshaw county. Sheriff R. H. Jones, of Crenshaw county, reported that Teague was killed by a party of citizens while attempting to escape. Another report to the governor was that Teague was killed by five citizens of Covington county and there was no indication that Teague was atteepting to escape. Sheriff Jones said the citizens were in no way involved in a llynching while the report said it was a clear case of lynching. Teague's sons escaped following the killing of Brodgen and are still at large. Citizens of Covington county have offered a reward of $200 for the arrest and conviction of each and Governor Kilby's offer of $250 is supplemental to the local offer.

1135

Lynchings—1922
Cases of.

Alabama.

1136

REWARDS OFFERED

Montgomery Advertiser

For Capture of Tucker and Essig Teague

12-6-22

(Special to The Advertiser)

ANDALUSIA, ALA., Dec. 5—Rewards of $200 have been offered for the arrest of Tucker and Essick Teague, negroes connected with the killing of Hosia Brogden, farmer residing near Gantt, Alabama, which occurred last Saturday night. The rewards totaling $400 are guaranteed by the brothers of the deceased, who are Hiram J. Brogden, recently elected judge of probate, Edward and James Brogden, farmers residing near Gantt.

ADVERTISER HEADLINE IN LYNCHING MISLEADS

Birmingham News 12-3-22

The Advertiser's headline on the story of lynching of a negro near Gantt, Ala., Sunday, was misleading in that it left the impression that Crenshaw countians alone were involved in the lynching. The story did not indicate that only Crenshaw countians took part in the lynching.

The point where the lynching took place, it is said, is just over the county line in Covington county.

Lynchings—1922
Cases of.

Arkansas.

1137

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
FEBRUARY 5, 1922

HENRY LYNCHED BY MOB AFTER ANNOYING GIRLS

Malvern, Ark., Feb. 4—Harry Harrison, negro, 30, was taken from the sheriff of Hot Springs County and two deputies at the door of a train here shortly before midnight by a party of about 200 masked men and riddled with bullets within a few yards of the railway station.

The negro had been accused of frightening girls and women for some time his offense culminating when he appeared half clothed before a motorcar filled with schoolgirls.

MOB LYNCHES NEGRO.

200 Masked Men Take Him From Sheriff—Shoot Him to Death.

Commercial Appeal

MALVERN, Ark., Feb. 4—Harry Harrison, negro aged about 30, was taken from the sheriff of Hot Springs County and two deputies at the door of a train here shortly before midnight tonight by a party of men estimated to number 200 and was riddled with bullets within a few yards of the railway station.

The negro had been accused of frightening girls and women for some time, his offenses culminating yesterday when he appeared half-naked before an automobile full of school girls. He was arrested this afternoon and jailed here. Tonight when it was rumored that a lynching was intended the officers decided to take the negro to Arkadelphia for safe-keeping. They had just boarded the train when they were overpowered by the mob.

The negro was taken about 20 yards from the train and shot without ceremony. Following the shooting the members of the mob dispersed quickly and officers took charge of the corpse. An investigation was begun immediately by the coroner.

The leaders of the mob wore flannel masks and none of them was recognized by the officers. This is said to be the first lynching in the history of Hot Spring County.

N Y C TELEGRAM
FEBRUARY 4, 1922

Arkansas Mob Kills Negro Taken from Police on Train

MALVERN, Ark., Saturday.—Harry Harrison, negro, aged about thirty, was taken from the Sheriff of Hot Springs County and two deputies at the door of a train here shortly before midnight by a party of about two hundred masked men and riddled with bullets within a few yards of the railway station.

The negro had been accused of frightening girls and women for sometime, his offenses culminating when he appeared half clothed before an automobile filled with school girls. He was arrested and placed in jail. Threats of lynching caused the officers to decide to take the negro to Arkadelphia for safekeeping, and they had just boarded the train when they were overpowered by the mob.

N Y C TRIBUNE
FEBRUARY 4, 1922

Arkansas Mob Riddles Negro With Bullets

MALVERN PARK, Feb. 3.—Harry Harrison, a negro, about thirty years old, was taken from the Sheriff of Hot Springs County and two deputies at the door of a train here shortly before midnight by a party of about two hundred masked men and riddled with bullets within a few yards of the railway station.

The negro had been accused of frightening girls and women for some time, his offenses culminating yesterday when he appeared half clothed before an automobile filled with school girls. He was arrested this afternoon and placed in jail.

Threats of lynching caused the officers to decide to take the negro to Arkadelphia for safekeeping, and they had just boarded the train when they were overpowered by the mob.

RETURN USUAL VERDICT.

Negro Lynched by Mob at Malvern by "Unidentified Persons."

Commercial Appeal 2/5/22

MALVERN, Ark., Feb. 4.—In connection with the killing of John Harris, 36 years old, at 10:30 last night, the coroner's jury over viewing the body, rendered a verdict today to the effect that deceased came to his death at the hands of unknown parties. Harris was positively identified as the negro who had made several indecent exposures of his person to women and girls in the neighborhood of the Wisconsin & Arkansas Lumber Company's plant within the last few days.

Following his arrest he was carried to the Missouri Pacific station here with the view of taking him to Arkadelphia for safe-keeping and had been placed on the train when the latter was boarded by from twenty to thirty men wearing masks over their faces, who took the prisoner from Sheriff Bray's deputies. He was then taken a short distance from the train and shot to death. Harris was regarded by those acquainted with him as insane. The lynching is condemned by the better class of citizens here.

TWO LYNCHED AS THE LYNCHING BILL GOES TO SENATE

St. Louis Argus 2/10/22

Mississippi And Arkansas Vie With Each Other In Murder Role. One Victim Harmless And Demented. Mystery Surrounds Other

Special to the Argus

MALVERN, Ark., Feb. 4—Harry Harrison, Negro, 30 years old, was taken last night from the sheriff of Hot Springs County and two deputies and lynched by a mob said to have numbered 250 men

Harrison had been accused of appearing half naked before an automobile in which there were school girls. He was taken from the sheriff as preparations were being made to remove him for safe keeping to Hot Springs No resistance were offered by the sheriff nor his deputies after being confronted by the mob

The victim was taken about two miles down the road and hung to a tree and his body riddled with bullets.

It is generally believed that Harrison was demented at th time his acts were committed. No arrests have been made as the sheriff have failed to identify any of the mob.

MALVERN, Ark., Feb. 10.—Harry Harrison, aged 30, was taken from the sheriff of Hot Springs county and two deputies and lynched by a mob said to have numbered 250 men.

Harrison had been accused of frightening women and girls. He was taken from the sheriff as preparations were being made to remove him to Arkadelphia to escape a mob.

Mob Holds Up Train Takes Prisoner And Shoot Him to Death

Pittsburgh Pa. American 2/10/22

MALVERN, Ark., Feb. 10.—A coroner's jury rendered a verdict that John Harris, colored, who was shot to death by a mob here, came to his death at the hands of men unknown to the jury. Harris is charged with having terrorized school girls and white women in the outskirts of Malvern by appearing half clad and making insulting remarks. Harris was captured by officers in a lumber yard about a mile from Malvern. Mob violence was talked among mill hands of the town where Harris was captured, but the lynching was dissuaded by officers.

At dusk, Sheriff Bray, fearing mob violence, spirited Harris from the jail, and attempted to take him to Clark county jail at Arkadelphia for safekeeping. When he found all the roads guarded by men in automobiles, the sheriff decided to place the prisoner aboard Missouri Pacific train No. 3. He boarded the train with Harris and two deputies and hid the prisoner behind the seats. Members of the masked mob, however, detained the train until a search was conducted, when Harris was found. The prisoner was taken to a spot about one hundred yards from the depot, and without a word being spoken by either the members of the mob or the victim, he was shot down. Seventeen empty cartridges were picked up at the scene of the killing a few minutes later.

Harris was well known in Malvern, having worked at the city waterworks several years. The body is being held at a local undertaking establishment, and visitors from all parts of the county viewed the body. No further trouble is expected here.

The lynching was the second in the history of the county. In 1887, a Negro driver was lynched for an alleged assault upon the daughter of his employer.

LYNCHED IN ARK.

The Guardian

COLORED MAN HAD BEEN ACCUSED OF SCARING WHITE WOMEN AND GIRLS.

Boston 2/18/22

Malverne, Ark., Feb. 10, 1922.—Harry Harrison, Colored, 30, was taken Friday night from the sheriff of Hot Springs County and two deputies and lynched by a mob said to have numbered 250 men it became known today.

He had been accused of frightening women and girls. He was arrested Friday and accused of having suddenly appeared half naked in front of an automobile filled with high school girls.

SLAIN MAN'S NOSE FOUND IN SEARCH

Arkansas Lynchers Display Ghastly Souvenirs Cut From Mob Victim

Chicago Defender 6/17/22

Texarkana, Ark., June 16.—On the night of May 19 Policeman Dick Choate (white) was shot and killed, presumably by Hurley Owens. Choate, it appears, was shot with his own revolver after he had attempted to fire on Owens, whom he had cursed and abused before placing under arrest. Rumors afloat here give several different angles to the shooting of the officer. Some declare that Choate was shot to death by a white man who attempted to kill Owens, but missed aim.

Owens Captured

After the battle Owens was captured and placed in jail. Friends of the slain officer formed a mob and marched on the jail and demanded the prisoner.

Little resistance was offered on the part of the jailer and Owens was seized. A rope was placed around his neck and tied to an automobile. He was dragged through the main streets of the city for an hour and finally carried to the principal section, where a large audience had assembled. Gasoline was poured over him and a match applied. His body was soon a charred mass.

The white men who led the mob are said to be John Elmore, Dick Farr, Joe Ransom, Nick Hightower and Joe Carter. Warrants charging them with first degree murder were issued and the five were placed behind the bars. Ghastly souvenirs were said to have been taken from the pockets of three of the alleged lynchers. The collection constituted a finger, part of a nose and an ear. The charges against the men do not admit of bail, but every attempt has been made to free them on writs of habeas corpus. It is feared that if they are once free they will flee the vicinity, as the case against them has been established without doubt.

Condemn Mob Rule

Although the whites generally agreed that Owens deserved death, there has been condemnation of the lynching by business men and others. The chamber of commerce, Lions and Rotary clubs and other organizations, and some of the churches have adopted strong resolutions against the lynching and protesting against mob violence in general.

Members of the Race here declared that prosecution would be almost impossible due to the fact that the jury will have to be selected from men who witnessed the lynching. Arkansas, they claim, is strong on making an arrest after mob violence for the general advertisement the state will receive as standing for law and order, but no one is ever sent to prison for such crimes. They assert that there is no hope for state prosecution unless there is a federal law demanding such action

IDENTITY UNKNOWN OF LYNCHERS MOB

Atlanta Constitution 7/30/22

Texarkana, Texas, July 29.—Officers today were without a clew to the identity of the band of 100 men who yesterday shot to death John West, a negro, near Guernsey, Ark., following a quarrel between West and Henry Worthington, paving foreman.

West and Worthington, came to blows following a dispute over a drinking cup, both using sledge hammers, but neither was seriously injured. West later was said to have been warned to leave town and he boarded a train bound for Texarkana. When the train reached Guernsey, a half dozen men went aboard and took the negro off. The men were joined by about 90 others and after taking their captive a short distance from the track, shot him to death.

NEW YORK HERALD
JULY 29, 1922

QUARREL OVER A CUP ENDS IN A LYNCHING

Negro Mobbed After Row With White Foreman.

TEXARKANA, Tex., July 28.—A quarrel over a drinking cup between a white street paving foreman and a negro employee at Hope, Ark., about thirty miles northeast of Texarkana, was followed to-day by the lynching of the negro near Guernsey, four miles southwest of Hope.

AUGUST 1, 1922

HOT SPRINGS, ARK., NEGRO LYNCHED.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 1.—Bunk Harris, negro, was taken from officers here this morning an hanged in a public square following the death early today of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, who was shot last night by a negro burglar.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 1.—Bunk Harris, negro, was taken from officers here this morning and hanged in a public square following the death early today of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, who was shot last night by a negro burglar.

N. Y. C. TIMES
JULY 29, 1922

ARKANSAS NEGRO LYNCHED

He Had Quarreled With White Foreman Over Drinking Cup.

TEXARKANA, Texas, July 28.—A quarrel over a drinking cup between a white street paving foreman and a negro employe at Hope, Ark., about thirty miles northeast of Texarkana, was followed today by the lynching of the negro near Guernsey, four miles southwest of Hope.

HOT SPRINGS SLAYER IS LYNCHED BY MOB

Commercial Appeal

Negro Accused of Fatally Shooting White Man.

Memphis Tennessee

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 1.—Gilbert "Punk" Harris, negro, who four years ago was given a six-year sentence in the state penitentiary for larceny, was lynched on the public square at Hot Springs this morning at 9 o'clock, just two hours after his alleged victim, Maurice Connelly, aged 30, prominent young insurance man of this city, had died at the St. Joseph's Infirmary as a result of bullet wounds. 8-2-22

A mob of 300 people—orderly as mobs go—pierced by strategy the cordon of officers thrown around the city jail to protect the negro after he had been arrested on suspicion, and had little trouble thereafter in securing the negro. While armed guards stood at the front of the jail, members of the mob went around to the city hall building and worked their way into a rear entrance of the jail, then covered the guards with revolvers.

The negro, with a rope around his neck, was taken away, protesting his innocence of the charges of having been the burglar who fatally shot young Connelly and escaped.

Connelly, returning to his home early this morning, found the negro in his hallway and tried to grapple with him. The negro fired one shot from an automatic pistol, which missed, and a second shot took effect in Connelly's stomach. An operation was performed two hours later, but without avail, and Connelly died this morning at 7 o'clock.

Connelly was a nephew of County Judge Charles H. Davis, was a Knight Templar, Shriner and an Elk, and popular in business and social circles. He was unmarried.

Two hours after the tragedy Police Chief Sullivan, remembering that he had information the night before of the return here of "Punk" Harris, who had been in the penitentiary, went to the Harris home and found the negro. A sack found in the room contained six chickens with their heads twisted off. The negro was searched and a 45-caliber automatic pistol found, with two cartridges missing from the magazine. The shells compared with those found in the Connelly apartment.

The negro had lost his cap in the struggle and his own wife identified the one found in Connelly's rooms as a cap belonging to Harris. The negro had left the apartment in his sock feet and his socks were all in rags, the police said. The negro was taken to the city hall by the police.

This morning as the citizens came to the business district and were further shocked by the word that Connelly was dead, the assemblages began to form about the city jail. Chief Sullivan dispersed several gatherings, but more formed, and finally Mayor H. A. Jones came on the scene. He implored the crowd to let the courts exact the penalty. Circuit Judge Wood finally came, and he, too, urged the crowd to disperse and promised a special term of court.

Finally the crowd began to surge about different entrances of the jail until they gained admittance, and with pistols in the stomachs of the officers they soon took possession and took the negro to a waiting truck and he was carried to the Como Square, where he was yanked up to the pole. Officers about the scene were powerless.

After the negro had been strung up for about 15 minutes, and when the crowd began to intimate the body would be burned, Chief Sullivan, Constable Hall and detectives and deputies stepped in, took possession of the body and took it to the city jail, where an inquest was held by Coroner Shaw that developed only that Harris came to his end from hanging at the hands of unknown persons.

The negro Harris was the first arrest in the case. Late yesterday afternoon Chief Sullivan was told that the negro Harris was back from the penitentiary and was suspected of being responsible for some of the house robberies. When the killing was reported to Chief Sullivan, he immediately went to the home of Harris and found him in bed with his pants on.

The negro had 15 automatic pistol shells in the pocket. Other circumstances fitted in. The negro refused to confess and was sullen, but he did admit many robberies recently, one of which led him to force some rings from an invalid white girl, who was asleep when he entered her room.

NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER QUARREL WITH BOSS

Commercial Appeal

Hope, Ark., Dispute Arises Over Drinking Cup.

Memphis Tenn Rec.

TEXARKANA, Ark., July 28.—A quarrel over a drinking cup between a white street paving foreman and a negro employe at Hope. Ark., about 30 miles northeast of Texarkana, was followed this afternoon by the lynching of the negro near Guernsey, four miles southwest of Hope. 7-29-22

John West of Emporia, Kan., was the negro lynched. He had been employed on the paving job about 10 days. The foreman was Henry Worthington of Topeka, Kan., who has been on the job about two weeks.

Worthington and West came to blows over the drinking cup and both were fined in the police court for disturbing the peace. Later West is reported to have been advised to leave town and boarded a train at Hope at 1:45 o'clock en route to Texarkana.

A mob of about 100 white men preceded the train to Guernsey, where West was taken off. He was carried a short distance from the track and shot to death, eight or nine bullets entering the body.

This is the second lynching at Hope within the last 18 months, Brownie Tuggles having been hanged there on the night of March 15, 1921, because of an alleged attack on a white woman.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 1.—Bunk Harris, negro, was taken from officers here this morning and hanged in a public square following the death early today of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, shot last night by a negro burglar.

ARKANSAS NEGRO LYNCHED.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 1.—Gilbert Harris, a Negro, was taken from officers here to-day and hanged in a public square following the death early to-day of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, who was shot last night by a Negro burglar.

Special to The New York Times.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 1.—Gilbert Harris, a negro, aged 28, was lynched here this morning for the fatal wounding on Monday night of Maurice Connelly, 26, a prominent young business man.

Connelly was wounded when he returned home from a dance and found a negro in his apartment. Connelly was rushed to a hospital, where he died at 7 A. M. today. New York Times

The negro escaped after the shooting. The police picked up a brown cap in the apartment, and Connelly told the police the negro was in his stocking feet. Two hours later the police found Harris, who has served one term in State prison, in bed with his trousers on, and a pair of white socks under the bed showed he had been out in his stocking feet. A woman living with Harris identified the cap as Harris's and told of three burglaries committed by him that night. The police found chickens in a flour sack in the home and other stolen goods. 8-2-22

Harris was arrested. A mob of citizens gathered at the City Jail at 8 A. M. and it grew in numbers until Circuit Judge Scott Wood and Mayor Harry Jones pleaded for the law to take its course. The jail was locked and barred. The mob entered the jail through the City Hall, in the basement of which the jail is located. Descending the stairway and bristling with guns, the crowd held the police back and took Harris on a truck to the triangle in front of the Como Hotel, a downtown centre.

Harris was told to confess but he refused. He was strung to a pole while the crowd cheered. The body was suspended for thirty minutes. A negro ambulance that appeared to take the body was chased away. A movement to drag the body through the street was stopped by the police. No shots were fired. The body was taken by the crowd, with a rope around the neck, to the jail and placed in a cell. No official action against the lynchers was expected.

Atlanta Constitution

Hot Springs, Ark., August 1.—Bunk Harris, negro, was taken from officers here at 9 o'clock this morning and hanged in a public square following the death early today of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, who was shot last night by a negro burglar.

N. Y. C. POST
AUGUST 1, 1922

Mobs Lynch Negroes in Arkansas and Georgia

Rec.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., August 1.—Bunk Harris, negro, was taken from officers here this morning and hanged in a public square, following the death early to-day of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, who was shot last night by a negro burglar.

N. Y. C. MAIL
AUGUST 1, 1922

Negro Lynched After Burglar Kills Man

Hot Springs, Ark., Today.—Bunk Harris, negro, was taken from officers here this morning and hanged in a public square following the death early today of Maurice Connelly, an insurance solicitor, who was shot last night by a negro burglar.

DRINKING CUP QUARREL CAUSES LATE LYNCHING

Texarkana, Ark., Aug. 4.—So little a thing as a drinking cup was responsible for the lynching of John West, Emporia, Kans., about four miles southwest of Hope. 8-5-22

West and a white foreman, Henry Worthington of Topeka, quarreled over a drinking cup that West was using. They were both employed on a paving job, but the white man objected to West using the same cup that the other workmen used. The employee used the receptacle despite the remonstrance of the foreman. This so angered the white man that he spread a false report among his friends concerning West. The latter was driven off the job and later caught up with below Hope, where he was lynched. Nobody was apprehended for the crime.

Negro Is Lynched Following Quarrel Over Drinking Cup

Atlanta Constitution Rec.

Texarkana, Texas, July 28.—A quarrel over a drinking cup between a white street paving foreman and a negro employee at Hope, Ark., about 30 miles northeast of Texarkana, was followed this afternoon by the lynching of the negro near Guernsey, four miles southwest of Hope. 7-29-22

John West, of Emporia, Kan., was the negro lynched. He had been employed on the paving job about ten days. The foreman was Henry Worthington, of Topeka, Kan., who had been on the job about two weeks.

Lynchings - 1922. Arkansas. 1138

Cases of

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE
JULY 4, 1922

THE NERVE OF CHICAGO.

The Chicago City Council has adopted a resolution condemning the "lynching and burning of human beings" and urging the United States Senate to pass the Dyer bill.

The Dyer bill is a political measure that has been declared unconstitutional by Senator Borah and other good lawyers, and the City Council of Chicago should not have urged its passage by the Senate. The City Council of Chicago should condemn lynching, for lynching is criminal and brutal and lynching must be put down. Under the circumstances, however, the resolution adopted by the Chicago City Council writes the councilmen down as men of unusual gall. The news dispatches do not tell that the councilmen said anything about the record-breaking lynching recently pulled off at Herrin, Ill., or about the cowardice of the state of Illinois with reference to this lynching or about the manner in which the sheriff of Williamson county, in which the lynching took place, is dogging it in refusing to uphold law and order.

Chicago has not had any lynchings, but Chicago is one of the notoriously lawless cities of the United States and much of this lawlessness is due to the city government, which is largely in the hands of the City Council.

The City Council of Chicago is what one who knows Chicago might expect.

NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER SHOOTING ARK. DEPUTY

Taken From Officers Attempting to Remove Him

VICTIM IS NEAR DEATH

Hundred Conway County Men Surround Jail at Morrillton and Intercept Deputies Leaving With Black—Officers Overpowered.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn.

MORRILLTON, Ark., Dec. 9.—Intercepting two deputy sheriffs who were hurriedly removing Less Smith, negro, from the jail here after he had shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Gran Farish, 100 men tonight overpowered the officers, took the negro two miles from here and hung him to a tree. 12-10-22

Farish was shot in the abdomen about 3 o'clock this afternoon after he had engaged in an argument with the negro over a debt. Farish demanded payment and the negro refused, becoming insolent. The officer struck him, when he ripped out an oath and Smith drew a .32 automatic pistol and fired one shot.

The deputy sheriff was rushed to a doctor's office, where it was stated after an examination that he would probably die. Smith was arrested and placed in the Conway County jail here. The shooting occurred in the negro section of town on West Railway Avenue.

12-10-'22

Mob Surrounds Jail.

Feeling was high this afternoon after the shooting, but no open threats of violence were made.

Shortly before 7 o'clock tonight a mob of approximately 100 men surrounded the courthouse, which also contains the jail. Officers realized that the negro must be removed quickly and they resorted to subterfuge, but the incensed citizens were not to be fooled.

All lights in the courthouse were extinguished by authorities in an effort to make the mob think that the officers were preparing to go home for the night. Deputy Sheriffs A. S. Misler and Arthur McDaniel took the negro, handcuffed, and started across the courthouse yard in the shadows, heading for an alley back of the jail. They meant to take the black to Little Rock and lodge him in jail there.

Officers' Flight Halted.

Some members of the mob saw the men stealing across the courtyard and immediately several men dashed toward them. Taking the negro from the officers, some of the men placed him in an automobile, while others held the officers at bay with pistols.

They speeded out of town and soon the work was done. Reports received here said that the body was riddled with bullets. Smith was about 21 years old and bore the reputation of a "bad negro." He had been jailed once before for a fight with a white man.

Deputy Farish is about 35 years old. He is married and has about eight children.

ONE IS LYNCHED, 1 BURNED ON PYRE

Chicago Chicago Ill.

MORRILTON, Ark., Dec. 16.—Lee Smith, 22, was taken from deputy sheriffs who were removing him for safe keeping to Little Rock, and lynched. Smith shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Geran Farris, when the officer attempted to arrest him. Farris is said to have gone to Smith's home for the purpose of collecting a debt, and hit him over the head with a bottle. 12/16/22

PERRY, Fla.—Charley Wright, accused of the murder of Miss Ruby Hendry, a white school teacher, was taken from the sheriff and burned at the stake by a mob of several thousand men Friday night. He was captured after a six day search which covered Florida and the southern part of Georgia. Hundreds of men participated in the man-hunt.

Negro, Taken From Deputy, Is Lynched

Atlanta Georgian 12-11-22

MORRILTON, Dec. 10. — Less Smith, negro, aged 22, Saturday night was taken from deputy sheriffs who were removing him from the county jail to take him to Little Rock for safekeeping, and lynched. The negro had shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Gran Faris this afternoon when the officer attempted to arrest him.

Negro Is Lynched For Killing Deputy

Atlanta Georgian 12-12-22

MORRILTON, Ark., Dec. 11.—Granville E. Farish, the young deputy sheriff who was shot and fatally wounded by a negro named Less Smith, died at the Jones Hospital Sunday morning. Farish had gone to Smith to collect a bill for a local merchant. Smith alleged that Farish hit him on the head with a bottle and he then shot the deputy sheriff through the abdomen.

Smith was arrested and placed in jail, from which he was taken by a mob and hanged and his body riddled with bullets.

Negro, Taken From Deputy, Is Lynched

MORRILTON, Dec. 10. — Less Smith, negro, aged 22, Saturday night was taken from deputy sheriffs who were removing him from the county jail to take him to Little Rock for safekeeping, and lynched. The negro had shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Gran Faris this afternoon when the officer attempted to arrest him.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY ARKANSAS MOB

Atlanta Constitution 12-10-22

Morrillton, Ark., December 9.—Less Smith, negro, who shot and probably fatally wounded Deputy Sheriff Gran Farish, when he attempted to arrest the negro this afternoon, was taken from jail and lynched here toni

DEPUTY SHERIFF BURIED

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn. 12-12-22

Many Attend Victim of Negro Who Was Lynched.

MORRILLTON, Ark., Dec. 11.—Funeral services Monday afternoon at 2:30 for Deputy Sheriff Granville Farish, who died at a local hospital Sunday morning after he was shot Saturday afternoon by Less Smith, negro, were held at the residence of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Farish, on West Church Street. The body of Smith the negro, who was lynched about 7 o'clock Saturday night was also buried here Monday, thus bringing to an end one of the darkest tragedies in Conway County within the past 12 years.

At a coroner's inquest Sunday morning over the body of Grant Farish, Coroner J. B. Arthur's jury found that the officer came to his death by gunshot wounds inflicted by one, Smith.

The verdict of the coroner's jury over the body of Less Smith was that he came to his death at the hands of unknown parties. The body of the negro was brought to a local undertaking establishment about 10 o'clock Saturday night, where it was viewed by large crowds. Sixteen shots that were fired into the body were counted.

Deputy Sheriff Farish was shot through the abdomen by a .32 caliber Special Colts revolver, making several perforations.

Although unconscious the greater part of the time, he recovered consciousness shortly before midnight Saturday. This was only for a short time, however, as he lapsed into a state of coma and remained this way until his death.

He is survived by his wife and five children, ranging in ages from 2 to 12 years, his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Farish, five brothers, the Rev. N. J. Farish of Dallas, Texas, Charles of Long Island, N. Y., Boswell of Washington, D. C., Eugene and Herbert of Morrilton and two sisters, Miss Anna Farish of Little Rock, and Miss Vera Farish of Morrilton. It could not be learned today what action would be taken by Prosecuting Attorney Sam Rorex of Dardanelle, Ark., in regard to the lynching.

Lynchings-1922

Cases of

1139

Florida

MOB IN FLORIDA LYNCHES NEGRO; ALLEGED SLAYER

Atlanta Ga. Constitution

Mayo, Fla., January 17.—A mob of approximately 1,000 persons overpowered officials here today, took a negro who, it is charged, killed W. R. Taylor Saturday night, and lynched him on the outskirts of the town.

The lynching came on the third day of a countywide man-hunt, after the negro had been captured in the woods a few miles from town. News of the capture spread rapidly and before officers could get him to jail he was taken from them by the mob, hanged to a tree and his body riddled with bullets.

Taylor, the son of a well-known naval stores operator, was shot and killed late Saturday night when he entered the negro's home to investigate a quarrel.

SEIZE AND LYNCH NEGRO.

New York Times 1/18/22

Florida Mob Overpowers Officials with Prisoner Accused of Murder.

MAYO, Florida, Jan. 17.—A mob overpowered officials here today, seized a negro who was alleged to have killed W. R. Taylor on Saturday night, and lynched him on the outskirts of the town, hanging him and riddling the body with bullets.

The negro had been sought for three days and was captured several miles from here. Officers returning with him were met by the mob. It was alleged that the negro shot Taylor, a rural mail carrier, when the latter entered his home Saturday night to investigate a quarrel.

Florida Mob Lynches Colored Man.

Mayo, Fla., Jan. 17.—A mob overpowered officials here today, seized a colored man who was alleged to have killed W. R. Taylor Saturday night, and lynched him on the outskirts of the town.

NEGRO LYNCHED

Montgomery Advertiser

MAYO, FLA., Jan. 18.—A mob of approximately 1,000 persons overpowered officials here today, took a negro who killed W. R. Taylor Saturday night and lynched him on the outskirts of the town.

Mail Carrier's Slayer Is Lynched in Florida

MAYO, Fla., Jan. 18.—A mob of several hundred overpowered officials here Tuesday took a negro, who was supposed to have killed W. R. Taylor Saturday night, and lynched him.

Taylor, a son of a widely known naval stores operator, and himself a rural mail carrier, was shot and killed when he entered the negro's house to investigate a quarrel.

N Y C TIMES

JANUARY 18, 1922

SEIZE AND LYNCH NEGRO

Florida Mob Overpowers Officials With Prisoner Accused of Murder.

MAYO, Florida, Jan. 17.—A mob overpowered officials here today, seized a negro who was alleged to have killed W. R. Taylor on Saturday night and lynched him on the outskirts of the town, hanging him and riddling the body with bullets.

The negro had been sought for three days and was captured several miles from here. Officers returning with him were met by the mob. It was alleged that the negro shot Taylor, a rural mail carrier, when the latter entered his home Saturday night to investigate a quarrel.

N Y C TRIBUNE

JANUARY 18, 1922

MAYO, Fla., Jan. 17.—A mob overpowered officials here to-day, seized a negro who was alleged to have killed W. R. Taylor, a rural mail carrier, Saturday night and lynched him on the outskirts of the town.

MOB LAW RISES IN SOUTH WHEN DYER BILL FAILS

Afro-American Baltimore Md 12-23-22

Arkansas, Texas and Florida Lynchers Numbering Thousands Turn Out As For A Circus

ONE BURNED AT STAKE

Church, Lodge Hall, Hotel And Theatre Also Set On Fire "For Fun"

Perry, Fla., Dec. 12.—Encouraged by the failure of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill to pass the Senate five thousand white men and women, constituted themselves one of the most bloodthirsty mobs this State has ever seen Friday night, burned Charles Wright at the stake and fired four of the main buildings in the colored section.

This town is 100 miles East of Jacksonville, 20 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and is the county-seat of Taylor County.

Certain that the Federal Government would take no action against lynchers, and that the local and State police would not interfere, farmers flocked to this spot from miles around as soon as it became known that Ruby Hendry, a young white school teacher was found murdered and two colored men had been seen in the neighborhood of the crime.

For a whole week this community has been in an uproar, while posses armed with guns ruthlessly entered colored homes in search of suspects. Angered by their inability to capture the perpetrators, firebrands were set to the Odd Fellows' Hall, public school, movie theatre and Baptist Church, and these buildings were burned to the ground.

Two Men Taken

Sheriff Lipscomb, white, captured two men suspected of committing the crime Charles Wright was arrested in Madison Florida, and Albert Young in a small South Georgia town.

Leads Prisoners To Mob

Instead of carrying the prisoners to Jacksonville, a hundred miles away, Sheriff Lipscomb drove with his prisoners straight into the hands of the mob waiting outside the town. There was no one to identify either of them, but nevertheless the mob took the two thoroly frightened colored men the spot where the body was found and conducted informal hearings. Wright had been seen in the neighborhood, and it was decided to lynch him.

A pine tree stump was selected and the victim strapped securely. He attempted to mumble a hymn, but only a moan could be heard. Twigs, leaves and a few scraps of paper were gathered and this blaze was intensified by gasoline siphoned from Ford cars of some of the spectators. To the yells and howls of delight the body was burned until it fell apart.

The yells and pleadings of the unfortunate man reached a horrible crescendo as the flames licked up the kindling around his feet and began to eat up his clothing.

Young was placed in jail for the night but was lynched next day as officers were attempting to transfer him to another jail.

Under the surface, the colored section is seething with indignation and revolt. Numbers of families have already left for the North leaving whatever possessions they could not carry in the hands of their neighbors.

FLORIDA MOB BURNS SLAYER OF TEACHER

Montgomery Advertiser 12-9-22

Prisoner Taken From Sheriff, Confesses and Exonerates Companion

(Associated Press)

PERRY, FLA., Dec. 8.—Charlie Wright, negro, accused of the murder of Miss Ruby Henry, young school teacher, was taken from the sheriff and burned at the stake at the scene of the crime early tonight by a mob estimated at several thousand men.

Along with Albert Young, negro, he was taken from the sheriff and his party as they returned to Perry to lodge the two men in jail. Wright had been arrested at Madison, Florida, early in the day and Young was taken at Kinderlou, Georgia. Capture of the two negroes came after a six-day search in which hundreds of men from Florida and Georgia counties had participated at one time or another.

Both negroes were taken to a small stream, a few hundred yards outside the town, where last Saturday afternoon the young woman's body was found by a passing train crew. Both negroes were given an audience and Wright is said to have exonerated Young as the second negro, who waylaid the young woman. He committed the murder, he is said to have confessed, while another negro robbed her. He did not name the other negro but said it was not Young.

Following Wright's talk, the mob proceeded to strap him to a stake. Pine wood and grass were placed at his feet and then set afire. His body was burned to a crisp.

Young was turned back to the authorities and tonight is in the county jail.

No other disorder was attempted. The mob which began to stream into Perry throughout the day, began to disperse immediately after the lynching.

FLORIDA MOB BURNS MAN AT STAKE

New York News 12/16/22

Men in All Walks of Life Comprise Mob—Burns Body to a Crisp

(Special to The New York News)

PERRY, Fla., Dec. 14.—The word "mob" here means that the white folks have declared business temporarily suspended and have become concertedly excited, bent on taking the law into their own hands. That is the beginning of what has happened here. A mob comprising hundreds of business men and women from Florida and Georgia counties participated in the burning at the stake of Charles Wright, a young colored man, who is alleged to have confessed to killing a white school teacher, Miss Ruby Hendry.

Wright, along with Albert Young, was taken from the sheriff and his party as they returned to Perry to lodge the two men in jail. Wright had been arrested at Madison, Fla., and Young was taken to Kinderlon, Ga. Capture of the two men came after a six-day search in which hundreds of men armed with rifles searched the vicinity. When captured both men were taken to a small stream a few hundred yards outside the town, where Wright is said to have exonerated Young and confessed that he alone committed the murder.

Men from all walks of life came together from far and near. Then the mob strapped Wright to a stake. Pinewood grass and kerosene were put at his feet and a match started the flames shooting upward. Although the unfortunate man pleaded with the mob to save his life, the men only jeered at his pleas and women stood with the men listening to the cries of Wright and watching the burning body until it was reduced to a crisp. Smoke compelled the women and children to remain at a greater distance from the fire than the men. Young was turned back to the authorities and all hands scrambled for souvenirs of the remains.

FLORIDA FIRST TO CELEBRATE DEATH OF THE DYER BILL

B'ham Reporter B'ham, Ala. 12-16-22

(By The Associated Negro Press)

(Staff Correspondence)

Perry, Fla. Dec. 11.—About a week ago a young white school teacher was brutally murdered near this city and at first it was persumed that the crime was commited by white persons. A pretended investigation was made and the first idea abandoned and the crime was fixed upon Negroes and attention given to tracing down the "black brute, or brutes." Having learned that two or three Negroes had left the vicinity some days ago and went to points in Georgia, the authorities turned their attention in that direction and soon located the parties suspicioned and placed or had them placed under arrest. One, Charlie Wright, was arrested in Madison county, Fla. and Albert Young, colored, was arrested in Kindalou, Ga. Both denied that they had commited the crime.

While the sheriff of Taylor county was conveying the two prisoners to another county for safe keeping, a mob said to be of about a thousand men intercepted him and took the two men and after a "mob trial" convicted Wright of the crime and tied him to a stake and built a fire about his feet and body and burned him alive. The real presumption is, that some white person or persons commited the crime and that the mob knowing these facts placed the blame on Wright to quiet the public mind.

In this "human burning" Florida has been the first state to celebrate the "death of the Dyer Bill."

NEGRO BURNED AT THE STAKE BY FLA. MOB

Atlanta Georgian

Victim Said to Have Confessed Slaying Young School Teacher—One Suspect Is Set Free

12-10-22

(By International News Service.)

PERRY, Fla., Dec. 9.—Friday night as the Sheriff of Taylor County arrived here with Charlie Wright, negro suspected of killing Miss Ruby Hendry, Perry school teacher, last Saturday, and Albert Young, negro, who was accused of being implicated in the killing, he was met by several thousand armed citizens of Perry and surrounding country, the negroes taken from him, and Wright burned at the stake, Young being returned to the authorities after the burning.

Wright and Young were both taken to a small stream, a few hundred yards outside the town, where last Saturday afternoon the young woman's body was found by a passing train crew. Both negroes were given hearings and Wright is said to have exonerated Young as the second negro who waylaid the young woman. He, Wright, committed the murder, he is said to have confessed, while another negro robbed her. He did not name the other negro, but said it was not Young.

day search in which hundreds of men from Florida and Georgia counties had participated at one time or another.

Both negroes were taken to a small stream, a few hundred yards outside the town, where, last Saturday afternoon, the young woman's body was found by a passing train crew. Both negroes were given an audience, and Wright is said to have exonerated Young as the second negro who waylaid the young woman. He committed the murder, he is said to have confessed, while another negro robbed her. He did not name the other negro, but said it was not Young.

Following Wright's talk, the mob proceeded to strap him to a stake. Pine wood and grass were placed at his feet, and the works then set afire. His body was burned to a crisp.

Young was turned back to the authorities and tonight is in the county jail. No other disorder was attempted. The mob which began to stream into Perry throughout the day began to break up.

The mob strapped Wright to a stake. Pine wood and grass were placed at his feet and then set afire. His body was burned to a crisp. Young was turned back to the authorities.

SECOND NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER MURDER OF GIRL

12-13-22

Atlanta Constitution

Perry, Fla., December 12.—The second of two negroes arrested Friday in connection with the murder of Miss Ruby Hendry, school teacher, the previous Saturday, was lynched last night. Arthur Young was taken from the officers as they were attempting to transfer him to another jail. Charlie Wright was burned at the stake Friday night after a mob of several thousand men had taken him from the officers as they brought the two negroes into town.

SECOND LYNCHING

Arthur Young Executed For Teacher's Death

Montgomery Advertiser

12-13-22

(Associated Press)

PERRY, FLA., Dec. 12.—The second of two negroes arrested Friday in connection with the murder of Miss Ruby Hendry, school teacher, the previous Saturday, was lynched last night when Arthur Young was taken from the officers as they were attempting to transfer him to another jail. Charlie Wright was burned at stake Friday night after a mob of several thousand men had taken him from the officers as they brought the two negroes into town.

FLORIDA MOB BURNS NEGRO

Perry, Fla., Dec. 8.—Charles Wright, Negro, accused of the murder of Miss Ruby Hendry, young school teacher, was taken from the sheriff and burned at the stake at the scene of the crime early tonight by a mob estimated at several thousand men.

The Negro, along with Albert Young, Negro, was taken from the sheriff and his party as they returned to Perry to lodge the two men in jail. Wright had been arrested at Madison, Fla., early in the day and Young was taken at Kinderlou, Ga. Capture of the two Negroes came after a six-day search in which hundreds of men from Florida and Georgia counties had participated.

Both Negroes were taken to a small stream a few hundred yard outside of town, where last Saturday afternoon the young woman's body was found by a passing train crew. Wright is said to have evonerated Young and confessed that he commitd the murder.

NEGRO IN FLORIDA BURNED AT STAKE

Atlanta Constitution

Was Accused of Murder of School Teacher at Perry, Fla.—Several Thousand in Mob

12-9-22

Perry, Fla., December 8.—Charlie Wright, negro, accused of the murder of Miss Ruby Hendry, young school teacher, was taken from the sheriff and burned at the stake at the scene of the crime early tonight by a mob estimated at several thousand men.

The negro, along with Albert Young, negro, was taken from the sheriff and his party as they returned to Perry to lodge the two men in jail. Wright had been arrested at Madison, Fla., early in the day and Young was taken at Kinderlou, Ga. Capture of the two negroes came after a six-

Lynchings - 1922. Florida. 1140

Cases of

N. F. C. TRIBUNE
JULY 19, 1922

Negro Lynched in Florida

ORLANDO, Fla., July 18.—A negro, believed to be Oscar Mack, charged with killing two white men at Kissimmee last Sunday, has been lynched by a mob at Lake Jennie Jewel, Orange County, according to reports received to-night.

N. F. C. TIMES
JULY 19, 1922

Florida Negro Lynched.

ORLANDO, Fla., July 18.—Persons coming into Orlando tonight from the Kissimmee Road reported that a negro, believed to be Oscar Mack, charged with killing two white men at Kissimmee last Sunday evening, had been lynched by a mob at Lake Jennie Jewel, in Orange.

REPORT OSCAR MACK LYNCHED

(Preston News Service)

Orlando, Fla., July 22.—Reports have been continually coming here to the effect that a Negro, believed to be Oscar Mack, charged with the killing of two white men last Sunday evening at Kissimmee, had been lynched by a mob at Lake Jennie Jewell, Orange County. Officials here are said to be investigating the reports.

Lynchings — 1922
Cases of

General

1087

N Y C CALL
MAY 31, 1922

May Is Bloodiest Lynching Month In Nation's Record

Standing of Lynch League Since 1889: First, Georgia; Second, Mississippi; Third, Texas.

By EDWARD M. THIERRY.

WASHINGTON, May 30.—Lynch law has made May the bloodiest month on record.

Twelve Negroes were killed by mobs. They were hanged, beaten to death or burned at the stake. Five were tortured to death in flames and the bodies of two others burned later.

Eleven of the 12 lynchings occurred in Texas, and one in Georgia. Texas stands third on the list, with Georgia first and Mississippi second, in the total lynchings in the United States since 1889.

Significance is attached to the unusual outbreak because of the pending deadlock in the Senate over the Dyer anti-lynching bill. The bill, introduced by Congressman L. S. Dyer of St. Louis, was passed by the House, but a Senate sub-committee of which Senator Borah is chairman has declared the measure "absolutely unconstitutional."

James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which is supporting the bill, says that up until May there weer only half as many lynchings as in the corresponding four months of last year.

During the past 32 years there have been more than 3,400 lynchings; there were 67 in 1918, 83 in 1919, 65 in 1920 and 64 in 1921.

Here is the record of bloody May, as complied by the American Civil Liberties Union:

May 6—A mob of 500 persons took "Snap" Curry, J. H. Varney and Mose Jones, Negroes, from the county jail at Freestone, Ga., and burned them at the stake. Curry is said to have confessed the assault and murder of Eula Awsley, a white girl, and implicated two other Negroes.

May 8—The bodies of Frederick Green and Tom Cornish, Negroes, implicated by Curry in the Awsley murder, were found hanging from trees.

May 16—The body of a Negro named Early was found swinging from a tree near Plantersville, Texas. Early, charged with attacking a white woman, had escaped from jail at Anderson.

May 18—Charles Atkins, 15-year-old Negro, was tortured over a slow fire and burned to death near Davidsboro, Ga., after admitting robbing and murdering Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, a rural mail carrier.

May 19—A mob battered down the door of the Miller County (Ark.) jail, dragged Hullen Owens, Negro, through the streets of Texarkana, Tex., until he was dead, and burned his body. Owens had fatally wounded R. C. Choate, who precented his escape when he was charged with theft.

May 20—Joe Winters, Negro, charged with attacking a white girl, was burned at the stake in the Courthouse yard at Conroe, Texas.

May 20—A mob of 300 persons took Mose Bozer, Negro, from the deputy officers and hanged him near Alleyton, Texas. Bozer was accused of assaulting a white woman.

May 23—Gilbert Wilson, Negro, charged with stealing cattle, was beaten to death by a mob at Bryan, Texas.

May 26—Jessie Thomas, identified by Mrs. Margaret Hayes as the man who killed Harold Bolton, her escort, and attacked her near Waco, Texas, May 20, was killed by Mrs. Hayes' father. A mob then carried the body to the public square and burned it.

In addition an attempted lynching occurred in Georgia May 23, when Jim Denson, Negro, sentenced to hang June 16 for attacking an aged white woman three years ago, was taken from the Wilkinson county jail. The prisoner escaped from the mob and was later captured by a deputy sheriff.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill, which is troubling many senators who face contests at the next election, provides a penalty from five years to life for any member of a mob that puts to death any guilty or innocent person. It also provides for five years in prison or $5,000 fine, or both, for any state or municipal officer who neglects to protect a prisoner from mob violence; and a forfeit of $10,000 by any county in which a person is lynched, the money to be given to the victim's family or dependents, or in lieu of them paid into the United States Treasury.

N Y EVE WORLD
JUNE 23, 1922

NEGRO BISHOPS URGE ACTION TO END LYNCHING

Council Asks Voters to Oppose Statesmen Hostile to Federal Law.

The Bishops' Council of the African Methodist Church, in session at Bethel A. M. E. Church, No. 52 West 132d Street, will hold meetings morning and afternoon to-day and tomorrow. The council brings together all the Bishops, general officers and several hundred of the leading ministers and laymen from all sections of the United States, Canada, South and West Africa, the West Indies and South America.

The following constitute the Board of Bishops: Bishops B. T. Tanner, Philadelphia (retired); B.F. Lee, Wilberfore, O.; C. S. Smith, Detroit, Mich.; L. J. Coppin, Philadelphia; H. B. Parks, Chicago; J. S. Flipper, Atlanta, Ga.; J. A. Johnson, Philadelphia; W. H. Heard, Philadelphia; John Hurst, Baltimore, Md.; William D. Chappelle, Columbia, S. C.; Joshua H. Jones, Wilberforce, O.; J. M. Conner, Little Rock, Ark.; W. W. Beckett, Brooklyn; I. N. Ross, Washington, D. C.; William D. Johnson, Plains, Ga.; A. J. Carey, Chicago; W. Samson Brooks, Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa; W. T. Vernon, Cape Town, South Africa, and William A. Fountain, Atlanta, Ga.

These Bishops preside over and have charge of the eighty annual conferences of the church. The African Methodist Episcopal Church is composed entirely of Negroes.

The Council opened yesterday morning with religious services, peculiar to the church, by the singing of old-fashioned hymns and other exercises. The sermon was preached by Bishop Ross, who said:

"The most far reaching and absorbing problem of all the ages has been the finding of a proper man to lead in the plans of God Almighty in the world. Christianity, and Christianity alone, will solve earth's problems. Corruption in politics, economic inequalities, the great crime wave in the country, and lynching, which is the foul blot on our country, will all vanish under the shadow of the cross and in the presence of real Christian and righteous endeavor."

The Council in resolutions deplored mob violence and urged Negroes to vote against statesmen who have opposed a Federal law against lynching.

GEORGIA LYNCHES ANOTHER

Afro-American

Jail House Mob

Atlanta, Ga., July 27—Taken from a cell at the entrance of the jail William Anderson, charged with criminal assault, was lynched by a mob of white men this week.

1087

DYER BILL GIVEN SET BACK

East Tennessee News

(By Associated Negro Press.)

Washington, D. C. June 29—The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill has struck a snag. An opinion that the measure is unconstitutional and should not be neacted by Congress was submitted to the Senate Judiciary committee by a sub-committee headed by Senator Borah. Its friends fear that this action will mean the death of the Bill. Certainly there is little hope for action at this session of Congress.

Senator Borah was joined in holding the bill unconstitutional by Senators Overman, Democrat, North Carolina, and Shields, Democrat, Tennessee. The other subcommittee members, Senators Sterling, Republican, South Dakota and Dillingham, Republican, Vermount, were said not to be in complete disagreement but believed the bill might well be passed and submitted to a test before the Supreme court of the United States.

Senator Borah and his associates contended that the Supreme Court of the United States had decided squarely in a lynchng case from Alabama, that a Federal Anti-Lynching Law was beyond the Federal powers. Therefore, it would be useless to present to the court the question anew under the pending.

Many experienced public men have contended right along that this would be the fate of the bill.

They point to the fact that Moorfield Story, white, former president of the American Bar Association, and president of the N. A. A. C. P., who is recognized as a legal authority as well as assistant United States Attorney General, who examined the bill had declared it constitutional and proof against any attacks on that score.

When the bill was before the House, its judiciary committee expressed its approval and the House passed it with a substantial majority. Those active in the fight for the law that would spell the death of mob law and lynchings said that many Congressmen voted for the bill with the assurance that a way would be found to kill it before it became a law. They state that prominent newspapers throughout the country, such as the "New York World" and the "Chicago Tribune" have been contending editorially that the law could not stand the test and that it would be pigeon-holed. At the same time congressmen with large colored constituencies could save their faces. They also call attention to the fact that sub-committee appointed in the Senate with the exception of Southern Democrats who, of course were opposed; consisted of the men who had little or no colored votes in their states, thereby denying the race from a chance to strike back.

In a telegram to the Associated Negro Press Senator Borah says:

Washington, D. C.—"The majority of judiciary committee seem to feel this proposed measure is clearly unconstitutional. The decision of the Supreme Court seem to leave no escape from that conclusion. It would be a wholly futile thing to pass it. It is the purpose of the committee, however, to continue the effort to frame a measure if possible which will stand the tests of the courts and with that end in view, the committee is now working. I think I can say to you that the committee is determined to exhaust every ounce of Federal power in dealing with this situation. In other works, the subject has not been abandoned and there is no intention it shall be if constitutional authority can be found to deal with it."

Representative Dyer, who has gained national fame as the author of the bill, does not seem to be discouraged. In spite of the fact that

the procedure which he as a lawyer knows is declared to be faulty. He wired A. N. P. as follows:

Washington, D. C.—"The judiciary committee of Senate after several meetings regarding it postponed further consideration for two weeks in order to have conferences between members of the judiciary committee of the Senate and of the House, relative to meeting objections and suggestions as to changes desired by judiaciry committee of Senate. I believe that the two committees will get together upon the matter and I think a law will be enacted before the end of this Congress."

Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, republican leader in the Senate, who urged the sub-committee to at least bring the bill out, when approached by representative of the Associated Negro Press said "Senator Borah has informed me that he has telegraphed your Chicago office regarding the attitude of the committee in the present situation of the Dyer Bill." Senator Lodge is regarded as friendly.

This leaves the entire situation in statu quo. Colored people thruout the country have been vitally interested in this bill and had thought that the recent wave of lynchings in Georgia and Texas would mould sentiment in its favor. It is said Senators favor the McCormick bill to provide a lynching commission, who would spend two or three years studying "the lynching question."

GIRL KEPT "ASSAULT" SECRET FOR 8 MONTHS

Then Told Her Parents That Negro Chloroformed And Outrager Her In Woods.

Winston-Salem, N. C.—That a Negro dragged her into some woods chloroformed her and then raped her eight months ago, was the story told C. E. Clayton, white, residing near here, by his daughter a few days ago. Clayton immediately went to the home of B. Hudson, the man arrested, and shot him dead. He then surrendered to the sheriff.

Just why the girl, who is eighteen years old, kept the secret of the alleged assault for eight months is a mystery to people here.

The case is being investigated by the authorities. Meanwhile Clayton has been released on bail.

DYER AGAIN PUSHING ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Herrin Massacre Said to Have Changed Senatorial Sentiment

Commercial Appeal

WASHINGTON, June 26.—Representative Dyer of Missouri, author of the anti-lynching bill, told the New York World and The Commercial Appeal correspondents today that he now expects speedy and favorable action in the Senate on his measure. Two things, the Herrin massacre and the organized demand of negro organizations, are said to have changed the attitude of a number of senators on this proposed legislation.

It was predicted today by Senator Overman, a member of the Senate judiciary committee, that Senators Lodge and other Republican senators fighting for re-election wolud get behind this proposition and put it through.

The purpose of the Dyer bill is "to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every state the equal protection of the laws, and to punish the crime of lynching." It provides that "the phrase 'mob or riotous assemblage' when used in this act shall mean an assemblage composed of three or more persons acting in concert for the purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law as a punishment for or to prevent the commission of some actual or supposed offense."

The proposed measure makes it a felony for an officer of a state or county to fail to do duty in protecting a person from a mob, and provides for a fine or a jail sentence or both. Under its provisions suit can be brought by the relatives of the slain person for damages.

The Herrin mob could be prosecuted in the federal courts if the proposed law was now in effect.

Negro Leaders Hot After Lodge.

Negro leaders have built political fires under Senator Lodge and threaten him with the loss of their support if he does not have the Dyer bill reported from the judiciary committee and passed this session.

"There shall be no side-stepping on this issue" the organization behind the demand for this measure assert. "We must have a showdown so we will know just who are our friends."

This persistent request and the aggressive attitude of the negroes in close states has frightened the Republican politicians.

Word to the effect that the Dyer bill should rest in a committee pigeon hole was passed around the Senate three weeks ago, but now senators are being advised that they may prepare for a vote on the proposition.

Senator Overman, a member of the sub-committee appointed to consider the bill, is opposed to it. He says such an act would be unconstitutional and the courts would so declare it. He thinks that it is aimed at the south, but admits that the Herrin case would come under it.

CLAUDE McKAY RESIGNS FROM LIBERATOR

Owing to a disagreement with Michael Gold, Claude McKay, the Jamaican poet, has resigned as executive editor of The Liberator Magazine. At The Liberator office it was said that a controversy arose over an article McKay published in the June Liberator.

The article, "Out of Texas," was written by a white woman in Texas and it showed that the recent lynching of a Negro boy was instigated by the "squealing" of the boy's white paramour. This article Mr. Gold, also executive editor, objected to, and he is also reported as having said that McKay was "Negroizing" the Liberator to the detriment of the white radicals to whose interest it is dedicated. McKay, however, remains as a contributing editor of the magazine.

NEGRO LYNCHED FOR ATTACK ON GIRL

Atlanta Georgian

MOULTRIE, Ga., July 24.—Whisked away in an automobile from before the jail here while four men who arrested him were endeavoring to turn him over to the Sheriff on a charge of assaulting a 15-year-old white girl, Will Anderson, negro, was lynched by a mob near Reedy Creek Church Monday morning. The negro is said to have confessed to the attempted attack after the girl identified him.

The negro's body was found about 50 yards from the road shortly before noon by Sheriff's deputies who trailed an auto caravan in which Anderson was taken away. The attack on the girl was said to have been attempted Sunday afternoon.

When captured by four citizens early Monday morning Anderson was brought here to be turned over to the Sheriff. The men halted their automobile before the jail and called for the Sheriff, who was absent. When the men moved away from the car, leaving Anderson alone in it, an unidentified man jumped into the driver's seat and sped out of town.

A few miles out three other cars fell in behind the machine and the party headed towards Reedy Creek. The lynching party is said to have been small.

N. Y. C. JOURNAL
AUGUST 2, 1922

MOBS LYNCH 2 NEGROES FOR MURDERS

300 in Macon, Ga., Take Slayer from Police—Arkansas Victim Hung to Pole.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 2.—Further disturbance between whites and negroes is feared to-day as a result of the lynching of John Glover, a negro, wanted for the murder of Deputy Sheriff Walter G. Byrd, a negro. The lynchers dumped Glover's body into Broadway at the scene of the Byrd murder last Saturday night.

The capture of Glover was brought about through negro spotters, one of whom was in the automobile that carried him to a railroad station at Forsyth, Ga.

The Sheriff did not want Glover captured here, for it meant certain death to the negro. Besides, the Sheriff and his deputies desired information concerning the plot to kill Byrd, which only Glover knew, it was believed.

RECOGNIZED ON TRAIN.

The miscarriage of the scheme resulted when Conductor Beall of the Central of Georgia passenger train recognized Glover as the negro wanted by the Macon authorities for the murder of Byrd. At Griffin, Ga., the conductor called in officers to place him under arrest. Policeman Phelps was shot in a pistol battle with the negro and may lose one arm as a result. Phelps's companion clubbed the negro into insensibility, however, and disarmed him.

The Griffin officers put Glover in jail there and then got frightened. They learned that more than a score of automobiles loaded with armed men were approaching Griffin from Macon and, not wanting a lynching party in that county, they proceeded with the prisoner toward Macon, traveling at high speed through Barnesville and Forsyth.

POLICE HEADED OFF.

Near the latter place the road was choked with automobiles and the car bearing the prisoner turned off on a side road trying to avoid the mob. The car became stuck in the mud. Crowds swarmed about them in a few minutes and the prisoner was taken from the officers and shot to death.

While the crowd scattered at the time, excitement has been running high ever since. There have been threats to "get" the three negroes convicted of the murder of A. L. Allgood, street car motorman and conductor, on Christmas Eve, a murder mystery that was solved by Byrd and which the police say resulted in the plot that caused his death. Extra guards have been placed at the jail.

TAKE NEGRO FROM JAIL.

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Aug. 2.—A mob here lynched Gilbert Harris, a negro, twenty-eight, for the fatal wounding on Monday night of Maurice Connelly, twenty-six, a prominent business man.

Connelly was wounded when he returned home from a dance and found a negro in his apartment. Connelly was rushed to a hospital, where he died at 7 a. m. yesterday.

The negro escaped after the shooting. The police picked up a brown cap in the apartment, and Connelly told the police the negro was in his stocking feet. Two hours later the police found Harris, who has served one term in State prison, in bed with his trousers

GRAND JURY FAILS TO SECURE EVIDENCE

Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press)

MOULTRIE, Ga., July 25.—The Colquitt county grand jury which was called into special session today to investigate the lynching near here of William Anderson, negro, charged with an attempted attack on a white girl, adjourned late today because of inability to secure evidence sufficient to warrant indictments, it was announced.

The only thing brought out, it was said, was that the negro was stolen early Monday by an unidentified man from three men who had caught him and brought him to Moultrie to deliver to the authorities. While the three were seeking the sheriff the man leaped into the automobile containing the negro and drove off, it was said, and several hours later the negro's body was found. The car, meanwhile, had been returned.

N. Y. C. SUN
JULY 24, 1922

Negro Accused of Assault On Young Girl Lynched

ALLENTON, Ga., July 24.—Will Anderson, a negro charged with assaulting a fifteen-year-old white girl, was lynched near here to-day. The negro was kidnaped in front of the jail at Moultrie, taken to a wooded spot and killed.

Lynchings — 1922.
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ST. PAUL FARMERS DISPATCH
JULY 4, 1922

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED.

James Harvey and Joe Jordan, Negroes convicted of criminal assault, and respited by Governor Hardwick, were taken from a deputy sheriff near Lanes bridge, Ga., and lynched, a telephone message to Sheriff Rogers at Jessup saids. The Negroes were being removed from Wayne county to Savannah for safekeeping.

GIANT COP BRUTAL TO YOUNG BOY

Burly Bulldozer Spotted; Had Terrorized Town; Fired as Guard

Chicago Defender
8-12-22

Macon, Ga., Aug. 11.—Murderers of John Glover will not be punished. Glover, 22-year-old boy, was lynched a few days after he had shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Walter Byrd in self-defense. The latter tried to arrest the boy in a Race store.

Walter Byrd, deputy sheriff, had a reputation for being fearless and brutal. He was the leader among those Bibb county officials who have made a practice of bulldozing and maltreating people in the Race section of the town. He was one of those who would enter the places for no reason at all and insolently question all the occupants for no reason whatsoever. If any objections were made to him the objector would be taken to jail. He had been in close quarters before, but no one had been successful in ridding the community of him, nor of getting him out of the position where he enjoyed an advantage. He was a big, brutish looking man, 6 feet 5 inches tall.

Manhandled Suspects

Men arrested by him were manhandled as though he were taming a wild animal. He was a former convict guard and was removed because he beat prisoners while they were sick and refused to give them food.

Glover, a petty, mischievous youngster, who meant no harm, took justice at the point of a gun. Had he not done so, Walter Byrd would have had another star in the crown of his fearlessness just because he had beaten up another "nigger" for no cause whatsoever. Policemen closed all places of business owned by our people in the block and ordered citizens off the street and said that the mob did it. The mob did attack all Race people that it was able to lay its hands on, forcing a collector of mails to leave his mail bag, abandon his work and "get for home."

White dailies here carried scare headlines of the lynching over stories that painted Byrd as a gentle, peaceable citizen and Glover as a desperado. The pitiful tale they told of the slain deputy inflamed the mob so that later editorials they carried lost their effectiveness. The Macon Telegraph is one of the papers that came out later crying against the lawlessness for fear the Dyer anti-lynching bill would be crammed down Georgia's throat.

How Daily Felt

It said: "The Telegraph has strenuously argued against the passage of the anti-lynching bill proposed in Congress, upon the ground that Georgia could be relied upon to look after her own affairs, and that this was an unpardonable invasion of states' rights. But there are far too many instances of flagrant flaunting of the law in this state to make it possible for us to defend the practice and permit the criminals to go unpunished. There was no earthly excuse for the gang of white men to chase or beat up or shoot at Negroes who were going about their affairs and who had nothing to do with the shooting of Walter Byrd.

"What was ever done about the white men who broke open the jail at Irwinton and took a prisoner therefrom, under sentence of death, hauled him around the country for several hours, and finally permitted him to escape, before they got to a suitable place to lynch him?"

Lynching In Georgia

MOLTON, Ga., Aug. 1.—John Glover, who has been pursued by a mob for several days, surrendered to the police last night and was lynched. After his surrender the police turned the prisoner over to a mob of about two-hundred men and boys, who took their victim to a nearby telegraph pole, swung him up and riddled his body with bullets.

Glover was charged, according to mob-law, with having participated in the murder of a deputy sheriff who was killed in a pool room Saturday night. At that time a race riot was narrowly averted.

Doubt is expressed whether Glover did the killing.

Lawless Mobs Reign 3 Days In Macon, Georgia

The Afro American
8/4/22 Baltimore Md

Macon, Ga., Aug. 2—With the lynching of John Glover, accused of killing a white deputy sheriff in a pool room raid, this Dixie town ends three wild days of terror.

Deputy Sheriff Byrd, white and Deputy Raley, colored entered the pool room belonging to C. H. Douglass, wealthiest Macon colored man, who owns also a theatre and barber shop next door "to terrorize" the bad element. Byrd was killed by a bullet from Glover's gun, and George Marshall and Samuel Brooks spectators were killed by Raley.

Glover escaped, but every train and auto leaving the city was searched. Every colored home in the city was violated in the hunt. White men on the streets took pot shots at colored persons who ventured on the streets, and police unable to give protection, ordered colored people to stay off the streets.

Colored business men were ordered out of the block where the shooting occured, and it took twenty policemen to keep mobs from firing Douglass' building. A hundred suspects were arrested, some of them as the police say "for their own safety". Every business place was closed before dark.

When Glover was finally captured near the city line, a mob of three hundred whites quickly took him from officers and shot him to death. His body was partially burned and then the clothing was removed with pen knives. Members of the mob multilated the naked limbs and face then carried the bleeding corpse to town where 7,000 persons congregated to view it. The lynchers dropped the body in front of Harris' place and left.

Officers say that Glover when arrested, begged the police: "Kill me now; don't take me back to Macon."

While threats have been made against the lives of several well known colored people late today the police are trying to avert further trouble. There were two colored spotters from the sheriff's office in the same car with Glover trying to get him to Atlanta, where Macon officers were waiting for him.

Men of all ages jammed their way into Broadway during the heart of the excitement and those that reached the body of Glover fought for souvenirs. During the excitement the body was hurled against a billboard at the entrance to a colored theater, where it remained half upright until the police rushed in and carried it away to Forsyth, Ga., for an inquest. The jury declared Glover came to his death at the hands of parties unknown. The Court has fixed August 29 as the date of an investigation by the Grand Jury. It is believed that no one will be punished.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB OF WINDER

Atlanta Constitution

Plea of Father of the Girl Injured Does Not Save Life of Negro Burglar.

9-3-22
Rec

Winder, Ga., September 2.—(Special.)—Jim Reed Long, negro, was taken from Sheriff Camp and shot to death from a limb about 5 o'clock this afternoon, in spite of the plea for his life of the father of the girl he seriously injured by striking over the head with a heavy piece of iron when surprised in the act of burglarizing the home at which the young lady was visiting.

The lynching occurred three miles from town. The sheriff was attempting to spirit the negro to Atlanta, following instructions from Judge Fortson, of Athens. The road was blocked to all cars by a large crowd of men awaiting the sheriff's arrival. The prisoner was taken from the car, swung to a limb and riddled with bullets in fifteen minutes after being taken from the Barrow jail.

Miss Violet Wood, of Rome, Ga., is in a critical condition from the injury received when she screamed upon seeing the negro pilfering in the home of Miss Pearle Saunders early this morning. It was some time later before she regained consciousness.

Not knowing that Miss Wood was in the house, the negro is said to have been surprised when confronted by her, and to have seized a heavy andiron to deal her a blow on the head. He fled from the house as she fell unconscious.

Men were gathering around the jail, after Long's capture, in a threatening manner this afternoon when Miss Wood's father, Rev. J. H. Wood, a Rome minister, arrived and pleaded with the mob to allow the law to take its course. He was joined by Mayor G. N. Bagwell and R. L. Rogers. The crowd dispersed, but later collected again.

The negro is said to have recently completed a jail sentence.

1000 MEN STOP PARTY TRYING TO REACH HERE

Sunday Tonesican

Prisoner Strung To Tree Beside Highway And Riddled With Bullets—Crowds Go

Atlanta Ga

EVERY ROAD IS BLOCKED

9-3-22

Rome Girl Struck Down By Burglar She Discovers In Home Partly Loses Memory

WINDER, Ga., Sept. 2.—A mob, reported to have been composed of more than 1000 men, infuriated by an attempt to slay Miss Violet Wood, of Rome, Ga., daughter of the Rev. John H. Wood, forcibly took Jim Reed Long, a negro, from Sheriff Otis Camp, as the latter was hurrying the negro toward Atlanta for safe keeping, Saturday night, hanged him by the side of the road and riddled his body with more than 500 bullets.

The lynching took place about four miles from Winder beside the main highway leading to Atlanta. Sheriff Camp had succeeded in eluding the mob camped about the Winder jail for several hours, apparently waiting for nightfall to take the negro from the jailers.

Long, who was but 19 years old, struck Miss Wood in the head with a fire dog after she discovered him in the home of Mrs. Pearl Saunders, where she was visiting. He was there to burglarize the house, it was said.

On discovering the negro in the room with her Miss Wood screamed. The negro jumped backward, seized a fire dog and struck the young woman across the head, inflicting a long, deep gash and almost fracturing the skull, it was said. Several

stitches were necessary. She will recover.

The blow not only knocked her unconscious but for a time destroyed her memory completely. She could not recall what had transpired until many hours later in the day; neither could she remember what had happened Friday night after her arrival on the train from Atlanta.

EVERY ROAD BLOCKED.

ATHENS, Ga., Sept. 2.—Jim Reed Long, who attacked Miss Violet Wood at Rome early Saturday was taken from Sheriff Camp near Winder aSturday afternoon about 5:30 o'clock, and lynched.

The Sheriff sipirited the negro away from the Winder jail in an automobile and was taking his prisoner to Atlanta. About three and a half miles from Winder the road was blocked b ya mob who took the negro and swung him to the limb of a near-by pine tree. People arriving on the scene a few minutes after the Sheriff's party had been intercepted found Long's body riddled with bullets.

Members of the Sheriff's party said only 25 men composed the party who took the negro. They said every road out of Winder had been blocked by members of the mob, so so intense was the feeling in Bartow County.

Sheriff Camp said he had received orders from Judge Blanton Fortson at 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon to take the negro to Atlanta for safekeeping. He left the jail about 5 o'clock for Atlanta and it was barely half an hour before Long was swinging by the neck.

Hundreds of automobiles went to the scene of the lynching. No further trouble was anticipated in Barrow County, authorities said. All was quiet Saturday night.

Long early Saturday almost killed Miss Violet Wood, of Rome, daughter of the Rev. John H. Wood, a widely known Rome minister, when Miss Long discovered him burglarizing the home of Mrs. Pearl Saunders, whom she has been visiting here. He struck her over the head with an andiron when she screamed.

The blow destroyed the girl's memory, partially.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MASKED BAND

9/29/22 9/28/22

The Atlanta Constitution

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Sandersville, Ga., September 28.—Jim Johnson, negro, was lynched this morning while being carried to Wrightsville, Ga., for trial, according to word received here by Deputy Sheriff J. A. Wood.

Johnson was charged with assault upon a white woman, and information reaching here is to the effect that he confessed before being put to death.

He was hanged from a tree and riddled with bullets, more than 200 being fired into the body.

Johnson was brought here last July immediately after the alleged crime, which is said to have occurred in Johnson county.

This morning Sheriff English was awakened by Deputy Sheriffs Davis and Mixon of Johnson county and a third man, who demanded the prisoner, saying they wished to take him back secretly to Wrightsville.

Several miles from Sandersville the officers found their road blocked by an automobile. Stopping, they were surrounded by an armed posse of about fifty men, were disarmed and the prisoner was taken from them and loaded into an automobile. He was carried to Cedar creek bridge, three miles from Wrightsville, where the lynching took place.

The Johnson county grand jury is now in session at Wrightsville. It is expected it will probe the lynching thoroughly. A coroner's jury this morning found that Johnson came to his death "at the hands of masked men."

MOB JURY SCORES OFFICERS OF BIBB

Atlanta Constitution 9/24/23

Returning Two More Indictments, Jury Censures Macon Police and Bibb Sheriffs in Lynching.

Macon, Ga., September 23.—Charging the police of the city of Macon and the sheriff's forces of Bibb and Monroe counties with ngeligence of duty, and returning two more indictments, the Bibb county grand jury today concluded its investigation of the lynching of John Glover, negro, and subsequent disorders August 1.

Those indicted today are Fred Whiddon and John C. Vann, charged with rioting. This makes a total of thirteen true bills returned in the case.

Severe criticism was directed at members of the police department of Macon, and deputy sheriffs of Bibb county for failure to reveal to the grand jury the names of members of various mobs that congregated on the streets of Macon and in Bibb county.

Censure was brought by the grand jury on Deputy Sheriff William Brannon and E. F. Newberry, who had charge of the prisoner, for not returning the prisoner in the direction of Atlanta after they had succeeded in stopping officers from Spaulding county and Griffin. Monroe county officers are criticised for making no attempt to comply with requests from Bibb county sheriff's office to stop the Griffin automobile in which the negro was benig brought to Macon.

Charles Roberts, Lee Davis, Jr., Justice of the Peace Will Mosely and Griffin officers are taken to task for being present at the lynching and not making any visible show of authority, and for their failure to disclose the names of persons who actively participated in the unlawful acts.

Negro Is Seized By Mob And Hanged

The Atlanta Georgian 9/29/22

SANDERSVILLE, Ga., Sept. 28.—Jim Johnson, negro, was lynched near here early Thursday for an assault alleged to have been committed on a white woman.

The negro was being taken from Sandersville to Wrightsville for trial when the automobiles bearing him and an escort of officers was stopped and Johnson taken from the car by a mob of 50. The officers were disarmed and Johnson taken to a bridge, where he was hanged. He is said to have confessed his guilt.

W. F. C. TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 3, 1922

Georgians Lynch Negro

ATHENS, Ga., Sept. 2.—Jim Reed Long, a negro, who was arrested today charged with having struck Miss Violet Wood, nineteen years old, with an iron bar when she discovered him in the house at Winder, Ga., she was visiting, was lynched by a mob near that place to-night. Long was taken from the sheriff who had him in custody and was hanged to a tree.

NEGRO HANGED BY MOB.

Georgians Take Accused From Deputy On Way to Trial.

Commercial Appeal 9/29/22

SANDERSVILLE, Ga., Sept. 28.—Jim Johnson, negro, was taken from officers and lynched today while en route to Wrightville to stand trial, according to word received from Deputy Sheriff Wood who had the prisoner in charge. The negro was charged with attacking a white woman.

Lynchings – 1922
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1142

Negro Is Killed After Shooting Of 2 White Men

4/14/22

Americus, Ga., February [illegible] (Special.)—Following the attempted assassination of Bennie Devane and Henry Harvey, near Ellaville, Sunday night, Will Jones, negro, was found wounded fatally a short distance from the town this afternoon by county officials. Both Devane and Harvey were shot Sunday, but it is not believed their wounds will prove fatal. The negro, who died after being removed to the county jail, is believed by officials to have been the man who attempted the lives of the two white farmers.

The negro had a number of bullet wounds in various parts of his body, and it is believed he was lynched. He was carried to Ellavile jail, where he died shortly before 5 o'clock this afternoon. Coroner U. H. Rigsby summoned a jury to investigate the negro's death, but no verdict had been rendered early tonight.

Following the shooting of Harvey and Devane friends of the two men began scouring the country for the perpetrators of the attempted assassination. Suspicion centered upon Jones, according to reliable information received here.

Sheriff Battle stated that he found the negro after receiving information that a "dead negro is lying near the public road" at the point where Jones was found. The officer did not give the name of his informant.

When found Jones was unconscious and neither Sheriff Battle nor Marshal Ballard, who was with him at the time, were able to get any statement out of him. The negro's hands had not been bound, Sheriff Battle said, and there were no indications of an organized lynching party, although the number of wounds in his body indicated numerous persons had participated in the shooting.

Inquiry in the community failed to locate any person who had heard the shooting and the officers believe Jones may have been "shot up" somewhere else and carried to the point where found.

NEW YORK HERALD
FEBRUARY 18, 1922

NEGRO MOB KILLS NEGRO.

VALDOSTA, Ga., Feb. 17.—John Glover, a negro, was shot and killed by a mob of his own race to-day at Indianola, seven miles east of here, after he had shot up a negro schoolhouse, killing a little girl and fatally wounding a boy.

N Y C MAIL
FEBRUARY 17, 1922

Negro Mob Lynch Negro Who Had Shot Children

Valdosta, Ga., Today.—John Glover, a negro, was shot and killed by a mob of his own race today at Indianola, seven miles east of here, after he had "shot up" a negro schoolhouse, killing a little girl and fatally wounding a boy.

Georgia Black Mob Lynches Slayer of School Girl

New York News
2/25/22

Valdosta, Ga., Feb. 17.—John Glover, a Negro, was shot and killed by a mob of his own race to-day at Indianola, a few miles east of here, after he had shot up a Negro schoolhouse, killing a little girl and mortally wounding a boy.

Glover, who was said to have been intoxicated, forced an entrance to the school after the teachers had barred the door. He was armed with a pistol and shotgun.

Negroes of the neighborhood formed a mob and surrounded the schoolhouse. He was shot three times and finally killed by a blow on the head with a shovel. No arrest has been made.

COLORED MOB KILLS NEGRO.

New York Times
2/18/22

He is Lynched in Georgia After Fatally Wounding Boy and Girl.

VALDOSTA, Ga., Feb. 17.—John Glover, a negro, was shot and killed by a mob of his own race to-day at Indianola, seven miles east of here, after he had shot up a negro schoolhouse, killing a little girl and fatally wounding a boy.

Glover, who is said to have been intoxicated, forced an entrance to the school after the teacher had barred the door. He was armed with a pistol and a shotgun.

Negroes of the neighborhood formed a mob and surrounded the schoolhouse. Glover was shot three times and finally killed by a blow on the head with a shovel. No arrest has been made.

not a lynching

WOUNDED BOY'S FATHER KILLED GEORGIA MANIAC

Staff Correspondent Gives Vivid Description of a So-Called Lynching

Chicago Defender
3/4/22

By a Staff Correspondent.

Indianola, Ga., March 3.—The reports that have been circulated through the columns of Southern white newspapers that a Race man was lynched here by members of the Race, are not true. After a thorough investigation of the tragedy which occurred here recently, the true version was obtained. It is simply this: John Glover, an Indianola citizen, drank moonshine Friday morning. The liquor went to his head and got control of his reason. He had left home that morning apparently to go to work, but returned about noon intoxicated. His home was near the school house that the city provided for Race children. They were at recess during the noon hour, and the boys were playing baseball on the school premises.

Children Annoy Him

The playing children were too noisy for Glover. He wanted to quiet them. His moonshine told him to use drastic methods. He did. But, according to Miss Viola Pearce, 605 Stevens street, the teacher of the school, Glover first approached her at the school house and attempted conversation. When she noted his condition, Miss Pearce turned from him, went to his home and appealed to his wife to come for her husband. The wife was afraid.

Miss Pearce then returned to the biulding, she said, but Glover had left it. He was interfering with the boys playing baseball on the grounds. The teacher called the pupils in. After Glover left she let them out to play again and then he came back. He wanted them to cease playing. Again Miss Pearce called them in. As one of the boys, Stafford Berrian, 14 years old, passed Glover on his way into the building, Glover slapped the lad down. Berrian retaliated by hitting Glover with a baseball bat.

Liquor Spurs Glover

Anger gripped Glover. It aided the moonshine in making a demon out of him. The man, infuriated, rushed to his home for arms. The boy must die, he declared, and he returned to the school building armed with a gun and a revolver. He threatened the lives of all of the pupils, it is alleged, and fired through the glass panels of the front door. Shot after shot was sent into the school room. Panic reigned. The boy, Stafford Berrian, tried to flee. Glover caught his arm and fired at him twice, striking the boy in the hand and in the hip.

The firing attracted the lad's sister, Mrs. Cleveland Mason, who lives close by. She hurried to the scene followed by her little 5-year-old daughter, Fanny. Glover, his eyes aflame with maniacal fury, turned his weapon upon Mrs. Mason. He snapped the trigger, but the gun missed fire three times. Then he switched the weapon toward the little girl and shot her through the heart. She dropped dead on the spot. The frantic mother clinched with the madman but she was no match for him. He freed himself from her by striking her over the head with his gun. The woman dropped to the ground.

Father Slays Madman

The shooting and the cries of the children attracted the attention of some men who were passing. They rushed to the scene. Among them was Toby Berrian, the father of the wounded boy. Glover, through his drink-crazed brain, recognized him. He turned upon Berrian. The two were at close quarters. Glover aimed his gun but before he could fire Berrian, grasping a shovel, rushed upon Glover and struck him over the head with it. The maniac dropped with his head torn open to his ears. Berrian's quick action saved his life and the lives of others who might have been slain by the madman. There was no lynching, but simply the slaying of a madman in self-defense.

N Y C TELEGRAPH
FEBRUARY 20, 1922

A GEORGIA negro was lynched by an infuriated mob [illegible] refused to listen to his prayers for a regular trial. The incident has not created the usual furore, because of the fact that the negro had murdered a colored girl and all the members of the mob were negroes.

RUM CRAZED MAN SHOOTS UP SCHOOL

Chicago Whip
2/25/22

BREAKS DOWN DOOR, KILLS AND WOUNDS CHILDREN AT STUDY

VALDOSTA, Ga., Feb. 25.—Crazed by mean moonshine whisky, John Glover invaded a schoolhouse at Indianola, six miles east of Valdosta at noon Friday, killing "Sister" Mason, a six-year-old child, seriously wounding Stafford Berrine, a fourteen-year-old boy and in turn was shot and killed by a posse of colored citizens of the Indianola neighborhood.

Reports reaching Valdosta that the drink-crazed man went to the schoolhouse, beginning to fire upon it as he approached. The colored teacher; fearing for the lives of the students, closed and barricaded the door. But this did not deter the murderous man, who was armed with both a pistol and a shotgun. With a load of buckshot from the gun, he tore the lock from the door and entered, continuing firing as he did so. Without having intentions toward any one especially, the girl was first in range of his hail of bullets, she being instantly killed.

The Berrien boy was next shot down. By this time, men from the farm houses about had been attracted by the noise of the firing and the cries of the children. Several of the men armed themselves before going to the scene and as soon as they got in rane of Glover, all opened fire. He fell with three wounds, but continued his rapid fire at everybody in sight. The posse of negroes, having exhausted their ammunition, turned to other means and the wounded man was beaten to death with a shovel, although it is certain that the wounds already inflicted were sufficient to have eventually caused the death of the madman. The affair created the wildest excitement among the blacks in the eastern portion of the country.

The promptness with which the negro men of the vicinity rushed to the aid of their children and the effectual manner in which they disposed of the whisky-crazed demon was highly commended by the white people of the section, it being reported that Glover had been very troublesome recently, due to his continued drinking.

Can a Madman, Turned Loose, BeLynched? No!

Chicago Defender
2/25/22

Because a man is drunk with liquor or possibly a lunatic, and while laboring under the influence of one or the other is engaged in the perpetration of a murderous assault upon innocent and inoffensive women and children is killed in an effort to overpower him, that fact is heralded through the columns of some of the white newspapers that this man was "lynched by men of his own Race." Any person of ordinary intelligence can see that this is far-fetched and is intended to deceive and mislead the public.

Lynching is where the life of a person accused or suspected of being guilty of a crime is taken by a mob. In this particular case this crazy maniac was killed in an effort to prevent the wholesale and indiscriminate murder of innocent and inoffensive persons. The fact that they were all members of the same race or group makes no difference whatever. The only object in view was to prevent rather than to commit crime.

The headlines in the daily press, therefore, were not in harmony with the body of the article. Recently in Chicago a man who may have been either crazy or drunk fired into a crowd of persons who were waiting for a street car, resulting in the death of one person and the wounding of another. Had his life been taken by the onlookers to prevent further murder, would they have been accused of the crime of lynching? Surely not. Yet this is all that was done in the case of John Glover in Valdosta, Ga.

GEORGIA CITIZENS SHOOT MAN AFTER GIRL IS KILLED

Chicago Defender
2/25/22

Indianola, Ga., Feb. 24.—John Glover got too full of moonshine. Bad liquor and guns don't end up very well for the man who uses them; therefore John Glover is dead and the Race citizens of this town go about their work peacefully. It happened that Glover forced his way into a school house and started shooting, dangerously wounding a boy and a girl. Several members of the Race, thinking they could handle the situation, sought to order Glover out of the building. He fired on the newly formed "committee" which in turn sought the aid of the white police. Failure to respond to the appeals of the "committee" caused the latter to take the law into their own hands and seek to arrest Glover. In the meantime the little girl had died.

Glover showed fight. He refused to be taken alive, so in order to stop him from killing anyone else the "committee" shot him in a gun battle. Three bullets entered his head, but he fought on until felled by a blow from the shovel held by a workman. No arrests have been made. None will be. The boy's condition is critical.

RIDDLED NEGRO FOUND BY ROAD

Atlanta Georgian

AMERICUS, Ga., Feb. 14.—Sumter County officers continued Tuesday their investigation of the death of Will Jones, a negro, found dying in the road near LaCrosse Monday, but no arrests have been made.

The negro, who died without making any statement to the officers, is believed to have been lynched because of an alleged attempt to assassinate Benny DeVane and Henry Harvey, two widely known farmers. When found his body had been riddled with bullets, and it is certain that numerous persons participated in the shooting.

Sheriff R. E. Battle said Monday night that he went to the spot where he found Jones, nearly dead, after receiving information that the negro was there, but he has not made public the name of his informant. Jones died in jail at Ellaville, where he was carried after being found by Sheriff Battle and George Ballard, marshal of Ellaville.

Persons residing in the neighborhood deny having heard any shots, and it is possible he was "shot-up" somewhere and carried to the place.

Coroner U. H. Walker empaneled a jury Monday night, but that body was unable Tuesday to reach a verdict.

Sunday nigh tDeVane and Harvey, both relatives of Mrs. John DeVane, were shot from the darkness, Harvey, an old man, being seriously wounded. The shooting aroused the neighborhood and friends of the two men began scouring the community. Suspicion was fastened upon Will Jones, and the negro disappeared. Because of these facts it is believed friends of DeVane and Harvey may have had a hand in killing Jones.

LYNCHED

Cleveland Call

(Associated Negro Press)

ELLAVILLE, Ga., Feb. 20.—Will Jones was lynched near here last Monday after he had been suspected of shooting two white farmers the night before. He was found with his body riddled with bullets.

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
FEBRUARY 14, 1922

Lynch Negro Suspected of Shooting Two Whites

ELLAVILLE, Fla., Feb. 13.—Will Jones, a negro, was lynched near here to-day on suspicion of having shot two white farmers last night.

He was found with his body riddled with bullets and was brought here for treatment, but died without making any statement.

N Y C EVE WORLD
FEBRUARY 14, 1922

NEGRO SUSPECT LYNCHED.

ELLAVILLE, Ga., Feb. 14.—Will Jones, a Negro, was lynched near here yesterday after he had been suspected of shooting two white farmers Sunday night. He was found with his body riddled with bullets.

N Y C WORLD
FEBRUARY 14, 1922

NEGRO SUSPECT LYNCHED.

ELLAVILLE, Ga., Feb. 13.—Will Jones, a Negro, was lynched near here to-day after he had been suspected of shooting two white farmers last night. He was found with his body riddled with bullets.

YOUNG WOMAN SHOT TO DEATH AND CAR TAKEN

Atlanta Georgian

Negro Boy, It Is Said, Confesses And Citizens Near Davisboro Take Summary Vengeance

5/19/

Victim Bride of Month—Sheriff And Other Officials Plead For Law To Take Its Course

RIDDLESVILLE, Ga., May 18.—Charlie Atkins, a negro boy said to be 13 years of age, was burned at the stake late Thursday afternoon by a mob of 3000 persons three miles from this place, at the scene of the slaying by the boy Thursday morning of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, 20, a rural mail carrier and a bride of but one month.

Walter Thomas, father of the boy, and Ella Thomas, his stepmother, also had been held by the mob, but following the burning of the boy, they were turned over to Sheriff B. E. English and other authorities and were taken to Sandersville and locked in jail. The mob, after considerations, decided not to burn the two elder negroes.

The mob remained on the scene until the body of Charlie Atkins had been cremated, and then quietly dispersed, going away in automobiles, buggies and wagons and on horseback.

No further trouble was anticipated here.

The Atkins boy, just before being bound to the stake, made a full confession of his guilt, explaining that he shot to death Mrs. Kitchens in order to get her automobile.

The negro had been held by the mob nearly all afternoon. The mob persistently refused to turn him over to the authorities, despite eloquent pleadings by Sheriff Kitchens and other cool heads.

PLEAS FOR LAW.

The sheriff and other authorities and citizens frantically begged the mob to spare the life of the negro until he could be tried in court, and promised that he would be given a speedy hearing next week. All of these pleas fell on deaf ears.

Mrs. Kitchens was shot to death when she was collecting mail from a box, part of her head being blown off by the charge. The body was carried from the car to a patch of woods and hidden behind a tree. Her mail bag was secreted several yards away from the body. The assailant drove away in Mrs. Kitchens' automobile.

BODY FOUND IN WOODS.

Delay in the arrival of mail in this city Thursday morning led to the discovery of the tragedy. When the mail failed to arrive, several residents in automobiles drove toward Davisboro expecting to meet Mrs. Kitchens en route.

As they neared the outskirts of Riddleville, Mrs. Kitchens' car was being driven into the city by Atkins. Atkins passed through the city without stopping. In the meantime the citizens continued their journey toward Davisboro.

Arriving at a spot four miles from the city they noticed a pool of blood by the roadside and investigated. Following the blood spots into a patch of woods, the men found Mrs. Kitchens' body.

After notifying Sheriff English at Davisboro of the affair, the men drove rapidly back to Riddlesville, organized a posse and gave chase to the fugitives. Mrs. Kitchens' car, badly damaged, was found abandoned by the roadside three miles from this city.

Mrs. Kitchens was 20 years old. She had been employed in the postal service since she was a young girl and handled the mail between Davisboro and this town. She was married six weeks ago to W. R. Kitchens, prominent merchant of Davisboro. She formerly lived at Harrison, Ga.

When the murder was first reported Sheriff English organized three posses and sent them in different directions in an effort to capture the fugitives. These posses were scouring outlying country when Atkins and his sons were captured by a fourth posse made up at Riddlesville.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY GEORGIA MOB

5/19/25

Atlanta Constitution

Davisboro, Ga., May 18.—Following his confession that he robbed and murdered Mrs. William Kitchens, 22, rural mail carrier of this city, Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old negro boy, was burned at the stake at 6 o'clock tonight.

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder, with hundreds of persons from several counties looking on.

After being tortured with a slow fire for 15 minutes, according to witnesses, the mob loosened the trace chains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his seared body in the middle of the main highway. He was conscious, crying in pain. The mob demanded to know if there were others connected with the murder.

Atkins, the witnesses said, named John Henry Tarver, another negro boy, whom he said was the only other person connected with it. He had previously connected his brother with the case.

Riddled With Bullets.

Members of the mob then raised his body again, fastening it to the pine tree in an upright position, rekindled the fire and then stood off, giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body.

Undertakers, who obtained the body following the lynching, state that more than 200 shots entered the body.

Immediately after the lynching the mob set out to find Tarver.

The roads in this section were thronged with automobiles, more than 300 cars being at the scene of the lynching.

Sheriff English, of Washington county, took possession of Gainer Atkins and his wife, father and stepmother of the lynched negro boy, and carried them to the county jail at Sandersville, for safe keeping. The mob made no effort to harm these negroes, however.

The negro said that he shot Mrs. Kitchens, a bride of a month, with a shotgun, determined to get possession of her automobile and make a dream of the night before come true. He shot her as she stopped at a mail box at the roadside.

Cash Found.

Although the negro boy was large for his age, officers of Washington county believe that he had assistance, for the body of Mrs. Kitchens was dragged fifty yards from the scene of the killing. The mail sack was a hundred yards away, the contents having been removed. The cash was kept in a cigar box, which the negro boy said he took home. It was later found there, officers said.

After disposing of the body and the mail sack Atkins said he drove straight home. He said he told his father that his dream had come true and then after changing his clothing he invited members of his family to ride with him. In the meantime he had smeared mud over the bloodstains on the automobile.

Discovers Body.

Sid Lewis, a farmer, passing the scene of the crime, found the body of Mrs. Kitchens thirty minutes after she had been shot. He had heard the shooting, but had difficulty in locating the body.

Lewis telephoned this information to Sheriff English, at Sandersville, and posses were quickly on the trail of the slayers. They found the automobile with Atkins at the wheel. Automobiles filled with excited men, who went to the scene of the crime, bristled with rifles and shotguns.

At a late hour tonight Tarver had not been located. The posses also were hunting another negro, George Clark, who is said to have been with Tarver this morning.

FEDERAL INSPECTOR SENT TO SCENE.

Upon receiving notice of the crime in Washington county Thursday, Chief Postoffice Inspector L. A. Johnson, of the Atlanta office, dispatched Postoffice Inspector R. E. Berry to the scene to act for the local department. Mr. Johnson painted out, prior to learning of the lynching of the negro, that in event he had been tried before federal court and convicted, he could have been given the death penalty in view of the fact that he used a pistol in attacking a postal carrier while engaged in line of duty.

Negro Is Hanged After Shooting At White Man

3/13/22

Atlanta Constitution

Harlem, Ga., March 12.—(Special.) Alfred Williams, negro, was hanged here today by a posse after he had been taken and had admitted shooting at L. O. Anderson, a white farmer and sawmill man, who resides north of Harlem. The shot inflicted only flesh wounds.

It is said that about midnight last night Anderson had put up his automobile for the night and had left the garage for his house when he was shot at. The negro is said to have admitted the shooting when caught by the posse.

An inquest was held over the negro's body today after the sheriff had assumed charge of it.

Lynch Georgia Colored Man for Shooting White

Chicago Daily Tribune

3/13/22

Harlem, Ga., March 12.—Charged with shooting L. O. Anderson, a farmer, Alfred Williams, colored, was taken from a posse here and lynched.

Lynchings — 1922
Cases of

1143

Georgia

1143

SLAYER OF WHITE MAN LYNCHED AT BRENTWOOD

Atlanta Constitution 5/30/22

Brunswick, Ga., May 29.—(Special.)—Will Byrd, a negro who went on a rampage yesterday afternoon at Brentwood, a small station on the Southern Railway in Wayne county, was captured by a posse and lynched after he had shot and killed B. W. Moody, a prominent Wayne county turpentine operator, and slightly wounded two others, Carlos Moody and Browning Weaver.

The trouble started, it is said, when the wife of Byrd, while riding in an automobile truck carrying a number of people, insisted on occupying the front seat with Moody and Weaver. She was refused this permission and became angry. On reaching her home she told Byrd what had happened. He secured a pistol and hastened to the Moody home. Moody and Weaver were putting up the truck when the negro arrived, and he started an argument. When B. W. Moody stepped out of his house, Byrd promptly opened fire, killing him instantly and wounding his son, Carlos Moody, and Weaver.

After emptying his gun at the trio the negro fled, and was followed by Carlos Moody, who succeeded in catching him, but was unable to overpower him. The news spread rapidly, officials in Jesup were notified, and in a short time a mob of two or three hundred had formed. Deputy Sheriff J. R. Tyre arrived from Jesup with dogs and the negro was traced into a nearby swamp, where he was captured. He was taken from the deputy sheriff, shot to death and later burned by the mob. Reports from Brentwood today are that quiet prevails after the excitement yesterday afternoon.

MOB STORMS GEORGIA JAIL AND LYNCHES NEGRO

Baltimore Herald 5/24/22 Common-Wealth

Irvington, Ga., May 23.—A mob of 50 persons stormed the Wilkinson County Jail early today and after a fight, in which one of the guards and a member of the mob were slightly wounded, seized Jim Denson, a Negro sentenced to hang June 16 for attacking a white woman.

The mob placed a rope around the Negro's neck and took him away in an automobile. No trace of him had been found early today by the Sheriff and his deputies.

Members of the mob, according to the guards, arirved at the jail at midnight in seven automobiles and demanded that Denson be surrendered. Two guards—John B. Stanley and J. R. Bell—refused and fired a volley with their guns. Guards said they thought one of the members of the mob was wounded, for the men immediately left the jail. They returned at 1 o'clock and stormed the jail. Stanley was slightly wounded in the exchange of shots and C. H. Richardson, a prisoner, also was hit by a bullet.

Forcing their way into the jail, members of the mob, with crowbars removed the iron bars of Denson's cell and hastened away with the trembling Negro. The guards added that a rope was around the Negro's neck when they last saw him.

GA. HASTENS TO CATCH UP WITH TEXAS

Chicago Defender

Burns Boy at Stake While 2,000 Merrymakers Look On and Laugh at Fire

5/27/22

Davisboro, Ga., May 26.—Barbarous Georgia, headquarters of the Ku Klux Klan, leader in lynching and burnings, most flagrant violator of the United States Constitution, added another to the list of foul murders to be charged against its citizens when a mob of more than 2,000 persons closed their businesses and stopped work to make a holiday fete of the burning at the stake of Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old boy.

No other affair of such importance has ever taken place in this county. The function was widely advertised and the townsfolk joined the farmers in filing to the scene of the human barbecue. Despite the fact that it was hastily gotten up, it was a success because the whole populace united in doing its part to see that it went off big.

A Jolly Crowd

More than three hundred automobiles were at the scene of the burning. Among the occupants were many well-known faces, lawyers from the town courts, ministers, workers in banks, habitues of loafing and lounging halls around the town and more or less wealthy land owners. There was much jollification among the crowd. It was white, too, with the single exception of a lad named Atkins. Peculiarly enough, these thousands had turned out to do him the honor. The men had brought their wives along and there were tawny looking daughters who joined their mothers and fathers in laughing the merriment. Tow-headed youngsters threw rocks at each other and played around awaiting the spectacle that was to come. Some of the more far-sighted climbed trees for points of vantage.

These fair citizens of the greatest democracy in the world gathered on the outskirts of the town at a spot where a murder had been committed just a few hours before. They chose the birthplace of an old tragedy for their celebration. While deadly carnival burned their hearts, the faces of these men, women and children chatted and laughed with gusto—nonchalance of a ghastly kind!

Guest Arrives

Finally Atkins, the child guest of the evening (the burning occurred at 6 o'clock), was brought up and the immortal three cheers burst from the lungs of these patriots. Firearms were got in order and desultory shooting was heard. After being tortured with a slow fire for fifteen minutes, the mob loosened the trace chains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his seared body in the middle of the main highway. He was conscious, crying in pain to the laughing taunts of his fellow-citizens.

Members of the mob raised his body again, fastened it to the pine tree, in an upright position, rekindled the fire at the base of the tree and then stood off, giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body. Undertakers who obtained the body following the lynching said that more than 200 shots entered the charred corpse.

It was all over in a little while, the festive mob licked their festered lips and wended their way home. A huge airplane had shown in the heavens, the farmers and townsmen (wholly unaccustomed to such sights) had gathered to see the strange monster when it should land, had seen it, felt it, then turned back to their shacks. And nothing had happened. The rest of the world marveled at Georgia's madness and meanness.

N. Y. C. SUN
MAY 30, 1922

GEORGIA MOB BURNS BODY AFTER LYNCHING

Negress's Right to Seat Brings Killings.

SAVANNAH, Ga., May 30.—Will Bird, a negro, accused of having killed B. W. Moody, a white man, near Brentwood, in Wayne county, was trailed into a swamp by a mob of 300 men, surrounded, shot to death and his body burned.

The mob then dispersed and Brentwood to-day was quiet.

The negro is said to have gone to the home of Moody, who was a turpentine and lumber operator, and remonstrated with Moody's son on complaint of Bird's wife. The woman, one of several negroes just engaged by the Moodys, had arrived at the railroad station and had been met with an automobile truck. It was said she complained because she was not allowed to ride on the front seat with the white driver and reported to Bird, her husband, as soon as she met him.

Bird was quarreling with Moody's son at the Moody home when the elder man appeared "to stop the quarrel." As he emerged from his door he was shot and killed.

GEORGIANS LYNCH NEGRO

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn 3/13/22

Alleged to Have Shot and Wounded a Farmer.

HARLEM, Ga., March 12.—Charged with shooting L. O. Anderson, a white farmer, near here, early this morning, Alfred Williams, negro, was taken from a posse, as he was being brought to the jail here and lynched. Anderson will recover.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
MAY 29, 1922

NEGRO SLAYER KILLED; MOB BURNS HIS BODY

Savannah, Ga., May 29—William Byrd, a negro living near Brentwood in Wayne County, was shot to death by a mob late yesterday and his body was burned, it became known here today. Byrd was accused of killing B. W. Moody, a farmer, who lived near him. He also seriously wounded Browning Weaver, it was charged, and shot Carlos Moody in the arm.

N Y C EVE WORLD
MAY 19, 1922

NEGRO BOY OF 15 TORTURED BY MOB BURNED TO DEATH

Fastened to Tree by 2,000 Georgians and Put to Death for Murder of Woman.

DAVIDSBORO, Ga., May 19.—Charles Atkins, a Negro, fifteen years old, one of four taken into custody in connection with the killing of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, twenty years old, was burned at the stake last night.

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder and followed an alleged confession from the young prisoner. He was tortured over a slow fire for fifteen minutes and then, shrieking with pain, was questioned concerning his accomplices.

Atkins was said to have implicated another Negro boy but to have exonerated his own brother, whose name had been connected with the crime in a statement made soon after his arrest.

Members of the mob, comprising nearly 2,000 persons, then raised the body, fastened it to a pine tree and relighted the fire. More than 200 shots were fired into the charred body.

Then the mob started out on a search for the Negro Atkins had named as his accomplice.

Mrs. Kitchens, a rural mail carrier, was robbed and murdered about four miles from Davidsboro. Stake last night.

N. Y. C. SUN
MAY 19, 1922

ONE NEGRO LYNCHED, MOB SEEKS ANOTHER

Murder of Bride Quickly Avenged in Georgia.

DAVIDSBORO, Ga., May 19.—A mob and a sheriff's posse to-day hunted John Henry Tarver, a negro implicated in the murder of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, a bride of six weeks.

The mob lynched Charles Atkins, a 15 year old negro, for this crime last night. The boy made a statement before he died in which he is alleged to have named Tarver as an accomplice. Atkins was burned and his body riddled with bullets.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
MAY 19, 1922

NEGRO BOY BURNED AT STAKE; APPEAL OF PREACHER FAILS

Suspected Slayer of White Woman First Flogged, Then Tortured by Georgia Mob.

Davisboro, Ga., May 19—The mob which burned Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old negro, at the stake yesterday, dispersed today apparently satisfied that Atkins alone was responsible for the death of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, a mail carrier, who was shot to death on the roadside.

Before his death Atkins is said to have told the mob that John Henry Tarver, another negro, was implicated in the crime, but after searching for Tarver for several hours, the ques

was abandoned.

At sunset yesterday the body of Atkins hung suspended from a tree at the scene of Mrs. Kitchen's death. It was riddled with bullets and partly burned. Marks of earlier flogging were visible.

Sheriff English of Washington County and the Rev. A. P. Sega made fruitless appeals to prevent the lynching. Sheriff English's plea was met with a mad clamor.

N. Y. C. EVE
MAY 19, 1922

NEGRO DIES AT STAKE; MOB SEEKS ANOTHER

Murder of Bride Quickly Avenged in Georgia—Prisoner Tortured.

DAVISBORO, Ga., May 19.—A mob and a sheriff's posse to-day hunted John Henry Tarver, a negro implicated in the murder of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, a bride of six weeks.

The mob lynched Charles Atkins, a 15 year old negro, for this crime last night. The boy made a statement before he died in which he is alleged to have named Tarver as an accomplice. Atkins was burned at the stake and his body riddled with bullets.

Atkins admitted killing Mrs. Kitchens and stealing her automobile. "I wanted it to make a dream come true," he said.

After his capture in the automobile of the murdered woman Atkins was carried to the scene of the slaying and tied to a low hanging limb of a tree.

He was first tortured with a slow blaze. After his cries and shrieks for mercy had continued for several minutes he was loosened and taken to the middle of the road. He was still conscious and was made to elaborate upon an alleged confession previously made. It was then that he is said to have implicated Tarver.

Atkins was then carried back to the tree. Chains were placed around his body and pine wood piled high about his legs. The flames sprang up and he quickly expired.

Mrs. Kitchens was 20 years old and was a rural mail carrier. She was killed while covering her route.

N Y C CALL
MAY 20, 1922

Mob Shoots at Negro Boy As Flames Lick His Body

Youth Killed Woman and Stole Her Auto "to Make Dream Come True."

DAVISBORO, Ga., May 19. — The dream of owning an automobile caused the lynching of Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old Negro, here early today. He killed Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens and took her car.

"I wanted it, to make a dream com true," he confessed as he hung i chains over a slow fire.

After his capture in the automobil of the murdered woman Atkins wa carried to the scene of the slayin and tied to a low-hanging limb of tree.

He was first tortured with a slo blaze. After his cries and shrieks fo mercy had continued for several min utes he was loosened and taken to th middle of the road. He was still con scious, and was made to elaborat upon an alleged confession previousl made. It was then that he is sai to have implicated John Henry Tarve another Negro.

Atkins was then carried back to th tree. Chains were placed around h body and pine wood piled high abou his legs. The flames sprang up.

The mob drew back in order t allow those who wished to shoot t have plenty of room.

Several volleys were fired.

An undertaker later said more tha 200 shots were fired into the body.

Mrs. Kitchens, for two years o more a rural mail carrier out of thi own and the recent bride of a promin ent Davisboro merchant, was at acked by two Negroes yesterday morn ng as she returned home from he oute.

Before she could use the pistol sh carried, one of the Negroes,—Atkins according to his confession—placed a hot gun to her head and fired. Th wo negroes then removed her bod rom the automobile and escaped Atkins' father and stepmother, Gaine Atkins and his wife, who are held b Sheriff English of Washington county for safe keeping, said the boy came home with the automobile and declared it was given him. When first caught Atkins accused his brother of the crime, saying he had merely helped remove Mrs. Kitchens' body from the car.

Georgia Tortures Boy Over Slow Fire. Texas Leads in Butchery, Lynching Seven, Five Of Whom Were Burned Alive

Baltimore Herald & Commonwealth

Davidsboro, Ga., May 18.—Following his alleged confession that he robbed and murdered Mrs. William Kitchens, 22, a rural mail carrier of this city, Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old colored boy, was burned at the stake at 6 o'clock tonight. 5/24/22

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder with 2000 persons looking on.

After being tortured wit ha slow fire for fifteen minutes, according to witnesses, the mob loosened the trace chains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his scarred body in the middle of the main highway. He was conscious, crying in pain. The mob demanded to know if there were others connected with the murder.

Atkins, the witnesses said, named John Henry Tarver, another colored boy whom he said was the only other person, conencted with it. He had previously conected his brother with the case.

Members of the mob then raised his body again, fastening it to the pine tree in an upright position, rekindling the fire and then stood off, giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body.

TEXAS NEGRO DRAGGED TO DEATH BY MOB

Texarkana, Tex., May 19.—A mob tonight battered down the door of the Miller County Jail, across the line in Arkansas and took out Mullen Owens, a Negro, who late today shot and fatally wounded R. C. Choate.

The crowd dragged the Negro at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the owntown section.

Choate died on an operating table in a local hospital soon after the shooting. Owens, who was shot in the mouth by L. J. Lummons, chief of police, managed to escape to the woods in a stolen automobile. He abandoned the car about a mile from town and attempted to drown himself in a pool, according to Sheriff John Strange, who dragged him from the pool and brought him back here. The mob soon gathered.

FIFTEEN-YEAR-OLD NEGRO BURNED AT STAKE AFTER CONFESSING TO MURDER OF YOUNG WOMAN RURAL MAIL CARRIER

5/19/22 Rec

Hundreds of Persons From Several Counties Watch Lynching in Georgia County; Implicates One Other; Two Hundred Bullets Fired Into Body; Victim Bride of One Month

Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press.)

DAVISBORO, GA., May 18.—Following his confession that he robbed and murdered Mrs. William Kitchens, 22, rural mail carrier of this city, Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old boy, was burned at the stake at 6 o'clock tonight.

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder, with hundreds of persons from several counties looking on.

After being tortured with a slow fire for fifteen minutes, according to witnesses, the mob loosened the trace chains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his seared body in the middle of the main highway. He was conscious, crying in pain. The mob demanded to know if there were others connected with the murder.

Atkins, the witness said, named John Henry Tarver, another negro boy, whom he said was the only other person connected with it. He had previously connected his brother with the case.

Members of the mob then raised his body again, fastened it to the pine tree in an upright position, rekindled the fire and then stood off giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body.

Undertakers who obtained the body following the lynching stated that more than 200 shots entered the body.

Immediately after the lynching the mob set out to find Tarver.

The roads in this section were thronged with automobiles, more than 300 cars being at the scene of the lynching.

Sheriff English, of Washington county, took possession of Gainer Atkins and his wife, father and stepmother of the lynched negro boy, and carried them to the county jail at Sandersville for safe keeping. The mob made no effort to harm these negroes, however.

The negro said that he shot Mrs. Kitchens, a bride of a month, with a shotgun, determined to get possession of her automobile and make a dream of the night before come true. He shot her as she stopped at a mail box at the roadside.

Although the negro boy was large for his age, officers of Washington county believe that he had assistance, for the body of Mrs. Kitchens was dragged 50 yards from the scene of the killing. The mail sack was a hundred yards away, the contents having been removed. The cash was kept in a cigar box, which the negro boy said he took home. It was later found there, officers said.

After disposing of the body and the mail sack Atkins said he drove straight home. He said he told his father that his dream had come true and then after changing his clothing he invited members of his family to ride with him. In the meantime he had smeared mud over the blood-stains on the automobile.

Lynchings - 1922
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NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
MAY 19, 1922

Georgia Mob Tortures, Then Burns at Stake Negro Boy of Fifteen

DAVISBORO, Ga., May 18.—Charles Atkins, a negro, fifteen, one of four taken into custody to-day in connection with the killing of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, twenty, a rural mail carrier, was burned at the stake to-night.

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder and followed an alleged confession from the prisoner. He was tortured over a slow fire for fifteen minutes and then, shrieking with pain, was questioned concerning his accomplices.

Atkins was said to have implicated another negro boy, but to have exonerated his own brother.

Members of the mob of 200 then raised the body again, fastened it to a pine tree with trace chains and relighted the fire. More than 200 shots were fired into the charred body.

NEW YORK HERALD
MAY 19, 1922

2,000 in Georgia Mob See Negro, 15, Tortured and Burned at the Stake

DAVISBORO, Ga., May 18.—Charles Atkins, a negro, 15, one of four arrested to-day in connection with the killing of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, 20, was burned at the stake to-night.

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder and followed an alleged confession from the youthful prisoner. He was tortured over a slow fire for fifteen minutes, and then, shrieking with pain, was questioned concerning his accomplices.

Atkins was said to have implicated another negro boy but to have exonerated his own brother, whose name had been connected with the crime in a statement made soon after his arrest.

Members of the mob, comprising nearly 2,000 persons, then raised the body again, fastened it to a pine tree with trace chains and relighted the fire. More than 200 shots were fired into the charred body. The mob then started on a search for the negro Atkins had named as his accomplice.

Mrs. Kitchens, who served as a rural mail carrier, was robbed and murdered early to-day near here.

CONROE, Tex., May 18.—The body of a young negro named Early was found swinging to a tree by the roadside today. He had been lynched last night. Early was taken by officers Monday night when screams of a young white girl aroused the neighborhood. He was placed in jail at Anderson, but escaped Tuesday night. Searchers apparently captured the negro last night and lynched him.

GEORGIANS LYNCH A NEGRO.

Shoot and Burn Man Accused of Killing White Farmer.

SAVANNAH, Ga., May 2[illegible]—William Byrd, a negro living near Brentwood in Wayne County, was [illegible] death by a mob late yesterday and his body was burned. Byrd was accused of killing B. W. Moody, a farmer, who lived near him. He also seriously wounded Browning Weaver, it was charged, and shot Carlos Moody in the arm.

The trouble is said to have developed over the arrival of several negroes from Macon to work on the Moody farm. Among these was Byrd's wife, who insisted upon riding on the front of the truck with the driver. She was denied this privilege and indignantly reported to her husband. Byrd went to the home of Moody, by whom he was employed, and in the quarrel that ensued the elder Moody was shot and killed and the other two men were wounded. Byrd escaped into the woods, where he was surrounded with the aid of bloodhounds and killed.

ST. PAUL FARMERS DISPATCH
JUNE 2, 1922

NEGRO KILLED BY MOB.

William Byrd, colored, living near Brentwood, Ga., was shot to death by a mob and his body burned. Byrd was accused of killing B. W. Moody, a farmer. He also seriously wounded Browning Waverly, it was charged, and shot Carlos Moody in the arm.

The trouble is said to have developed over the arrival of a number of colored men from Macon to work on the Moody farm. Among them was Byrd's wife, who insisted upon riding on the front of the truck with the driver. She was denied this privilege and indignantly reported it to her husband. Byrd went to the home of Moody and in the quarrel that ensued the shooting occurred.

Another negro went to Moody's home with Byrd, but left when the trouble started. He has not been molested. The section was quiet today.

ATLANTA GA CONSTITUTION
MAY 19, 1922

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY GEORGIA MOB

Davidsboro, Ga., May 18.—Following his confession that he robbed and murdered Mrs. William Kitchens, 22, rural mail carrier of this city, Charlie Atkins, 15-year-old negro boy, was burned at the stake at 6 o'clock tonight.

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder, with hundreds of persons from several counties looking on.

After being tortured with a slow fire for 15 minutes, according to witnesses, the mob loosened the trace chains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his seared body in the middle of the main highway. He was conscious, crying in pain. The mob demanded to know if there were others connected with the murder.

Atkins, the witnesses said, named John Henry Tarver, another negro boy, whom he said was the only other person connected with it. He had previously connected his brother with the case.

Riddled With Bullets.

Members of the mob then raised his body again, fastening it to the pine tree in an upright position, rekindled the fire and then stood off, giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body.

Undertakers, who obtained the body following the lynching, state that more than 200 shots entered the body.

Immediately after the lynching the mob set out to find Tarver.

The roads in this section were thronged with automobiles, more than 300 cars being at the scene of the lynching.

Sheriff English, of Washington county, took possession of Gainer Atkins and his wife, father and stepmother of the lynched negro boy, and carried them to the county jail at Sandersville, for safe keeping. The mob made no effort to harm these negroes, however.

The negro said that he shot Mrs. Kitchens, a bride of a month, with a shotgun, determined to get possession of her automobile and make a dream of the night before come true. He shot her as she stopped at a mail box at the roadside.

Cash Found.

Although the negro boy was large for his age, officers of Washington county believe that he had assistance, for the body of Mrs. Kitchens was dragged fifty yards from the scene of the killing. The mail sack was a hundred yards away, the contents having been removed. The cash was kept in a cigar box, which the negro boy said he took home. It was later found there, officers said.

After disposing of the body and the mail sack Atkins said he drove straight home. He said he told his father that his dream had come true and then after changing his clothing he invited members of his family to ride with him. In the meantime he had smeared mud over the bloodstain on the automobile.

Discovers Body.

Sid Lewis, a farmer, passing the scene of the crime, found the body of Mrs. Kitchens thirty minutes after she had been shot. He had heard the shooting, but had difficulty in locating the body.

Lewis telephoned this information to Sheriff English, at Sandersville and posses were quickly on the trail of the slayers. They found the automobile with Atkins at the wheel. Automobiles filled with excited men, who went to the scene of the crime, bristled with rifles and shotguns.

At a late hour tonight Tarver had not been located. The posses also were hunting another negro, George Clark, who is said to have been with Tarver this morning.

FEDERAL INSPECTOR SENT TO SCENE.

Upon receiving notice of the crime in Washington county Thursday, Chief Postoffice Inspector L. A. Johnson, of the Atlanta office, dispatched Postoffice Inspector R. E. Berry to the scene to act for the local department. Mr. Johnson painted out prior to learning of the lynching of the negro, that in event he had been haled before federal court and convicted, he could have been given the death penalty in view of the fact that he used a pistol in attacking a postal carrier while engaged in line of duty.

N Y C TIMES
JULY 10, 1922

SAYS THEY AIDED LYNCHERS

Georgia Minister Accuses Officials in Charge of Two Prisoners.

Special to The New York Times.

ATLANTA, Ga., July 9.—That the lynching of 4 negroes in Wayne County, after they had been reprieved for thirty days by Governor Hardwick will not go unpunished seems assured by recent developments at the Executive offices. Governor Hardwick has offered the highest reward in his power for the arrest of the lynchers, has denounced the crime and has announced that mob rule will not be allowed in this State so long as he is Governor.

The Rev. P. T. Holloway has practically charged in a sermon that officials of the county connived at the lynching, and had practically invited it. "The morning after the unlawful executions," he said, "I heard two men talking about a lynching, and one of them was an officer who took charge of the victims purposely to take them to Savannah. The general public wants to know why they should have been taken away from Jesup, and especially why they should have been taken away in a Ford car, when there were fast passenger trains going straight through to Savannah making no stop. We demand to know how a mob of men seventy miles away could find out when these prisoners were taken from the county jail, and where they got their information of the route taken. The general public would like to know why the officers who had these prisoners in charge stopped at Lane's Bridge thirty minutes and told the guard that if anybody came along to tell them they were going to Savannah and would probably have car trouble.

"The public wants to know why two men, whose names I could call, went to a citizen's house on Thursday and said: 'Let's get these two negroes and lynch them. The Sheriff said it would be all right; that he would offer no resistance.'"

THE MIDWAY LYNCHING

James Harvey and Joe Jordan who were accused of criminal assault, were to have been hung last Friday at Jesup. On account of newly discovered evidence, the Governor gave them a thirty day respite. Claiming to fear the men being attacked by a mob in the Jesup jail, two deputy sheriffs attempted to bring them to Savannah, driving through the country in a Ford car, rather than taking the fast train which made no stop between Jesup and Savannah.

7-6-22

Leaving Midway about a mile, the officers claimed the mob secured the prisoners whose bodies were found dangling on a dead tree limb the next morning.

The bodies of the unfortunate men were allowed to remain at the fatal spot all day without attention other than common place inquiry of the coroner's jury.

Near evening one of our prominent colored citizens passing the place, finding that nothing was done for the burial of the remains, became immediately interested, and at his personal expense, he drove to McIntosh, and at a considerable cost purchased two caskets and had the remains placed therein. The bodies were then taken to a building near the Midway church. Early Sunday morning the services of a minister were secured and the poor unfortunates were given a decent Christian burial near by. Were it not for the human action of this citizen, no doubt the unfortunate men would have been buried in a trench at the fatal spot without a word of prayer. There are citizens of Liberty county who are aware of what he did and are unstinted in appreciation of his act.

There are several features of this lynching that demand investigating and if same be done in a fearless manner, the officers will not go unscathed.

Many are thinking for what reason did Sheriff Rogers leave Jesup for Savannah under the circumstances. Why did the two officers leave with the prisoners in a Ford car rather than taking a fast train? Why did they linger on the road as reported and leave word at Lane bridge that they are gone ahead, but may have trouble with the car. It is whispered that either these officers or some one else were seen

early in the evening at a secluded spot the other side of Midway. Why did they so tamely submit to the mob?

Another remarkable incident is the condition of the men after they were found. It is stated that they were hanging to an ordinary dead tree limb. Their legs were untied. In the throes of death these men would no doubt have made some struggle which would have been sufficient to break the dead limb.

There was no appearence of strangulation whatever it is alleged, the only mark being that of the rope around the neck. It could not be ascertained whether their necks were broken or not.

The dead limb was sawed off and brought to the city.

Gov. Hardwick has offered the largest reward in his power $500.00 for the apprehension of the lynchers.

In another column we are publishing the strong sermon of one of Jesup's ministers. It is worth reading.

GA. MOB HANGS TWO NEGROES

HINESVILLE, Ga., July 1.—Joe Jordan and James Harvey, negroes, who were to have been hanged in Jesup Friday, having been convicted of criminal assualt, but who were respited by Governor Hardwick were taken from a Wayne County deputy sheriff and lynched near Old Midway Church in this, Liberty County, late Friday night.

Sheriff Rogers of Wayne became apprehensive for the safety of his prisoners and in an effort to save them turned them over to a deputy to be carried to Savannah for safekeeping. The deputy got as far as a mile south of the old Revolutionary church when he was held up by the parking of three cars across the road. Four men shoved guns into his face and ribs and ordered him to get out and he complied. The mob took the negroes two miles north and within 200 yards of the monument to Lyman Hall, one of Georgia's signers of the Declaration of Independence, and within 50 feet of the public road, hanged them. They were not gagged and their feet were not tied. They died from strangling.

A Coroner's jury has been impannelled to investigate.

Hold First Lynching in Liberty Co.

Hinesville, Ga., July 1.—In a frantic effort not to be outdone by any other Southern state, Georgia is increasing her list of mob victims at an alarming rate. The two last names added to the record were those of James Harvey and Joe Jordan, lynched on the Hinesville road near the Dixie highway.

Harvey and Jordon had been convicted of criminal assault on an aged white woman. Three times the case was tried in the court, going from the Wayne county superior court to the supreme court. Conviction resulted in each instance and the men were sentenced to hang June 30. June 29 Governor Hardwick granted a 30-day reprieve in order that certain other evidence upholding the innocence of the men might be obtained.

As soon as knowledge of the reprieve got out white men from several counties made their way to Liberty county in preparation to stage the first lynching the county has ever known. The sheriff and chief of police had left for Savannah. It was the intention of deputies left in charge of the prisoners to take them to Savannah also, but news of it spread to the lynchers, who blocked the road over which the deputies had to pass with three of their automobiles. When the official car drew up it was boarded by the mobbists, the men taken from the deputies and the lynching staged.

A significant feature of the mob action in Liberty county was that it was enacted largely by outsiders. The county itself has always been largely made up of Race inhabitants. It was the last Georgia county to send a representative to the legislature and its citizens continued in power in the district until the state divided the county and gave the minority whites a chance to seize the reins of power. Most of the property holdings in the section, formerly in the hands of the Race, have gone back to the whites, Race owners having sold and left for other parts.

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
JULY 2, 1922

Two Negroes Are Lynched After Getting Respites

JESUP, Ga., July 1.—James Harvey and Joe Jordon, negroes convicted of attacking a woman and granted respites yesterday by Governor Hardwick, were taken from Deputy Sheriff J. R. Tyre near Lane's Bridge in Liberty County and lynched.

The men were en route to Savannah for safe keeping.

MOB KILLS SLAYER ON WAY TO PRISON

Captured At Griffin, Glover Is Lynched Fwe Miles North Of Macon.

MACON, Ga., August 1.—John ("Cocky") Glover, negro slayer of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd, was lynched at Holton, a few miles north of Macon, Tuesday about noon by a mob of several hundred.

The body of the negro was brought to Macon in the afternoon by a crowd that broke down a barrier in front of the Douglas Theater, owned by a negro, and threw it into the lobby. Reserves were called out to quell the crowd, which was finally accomplished when officers put the body in a car and carried it to a negro undertaking establishment.

Glover was captured Tuesday morning at Griffin, after a battle aboard a Central of Georgia passenger train, during which he shot and seriously wounded Policeman Pate Phelps, and was overpowered by Phelps' companion, Policeman Huckabee, and a bystander.

A statement by the Sheriff's office in Macon Tuesday morning, after the capture, said no attempt would be made to bring Glover to the Bibb County jail, because of intense feeling.

START FOR MACON.

Sheriff Lane McLally, of Bibb County, Federal Prohibition Agent N. Newberry, and a deputy sheriff from Macon started south with Glover in an automobile over the National Highway. At Bolingbroke they turned east over a little used byway to Holton, hoping, they said, to avoid a mob.

At Holton the mob met them. The negro was taken from the Sheriff and his party, then returned to the officials for questioning concerning a confession.

Glover said he had been in the pool room at Macon, but denied having done any shooting Saturday afternoon.

He was taken by the mob once more, tied to a tree, shot through the head, and then his body was almost shot to pieces by the crowd. The body was left in a ditch by the roadside by the lynchers.

BEGS FOR DEATH.

The negro, who had been badly beaten by policemen during his desperate fight, begged the mob to hurry the hanging.

Glover killed Deputy Sheriff Byrd Saturday afternoon when the deputy with Deputy Sheriff Romas Raley and a negro deputy, Will Jakes, went to a negro pool room in Broadway to quiet a disturbance caused by Glover bulldozing other negroes.

The negro desperado opened fire on sighting the deputies, and Byrd fell, mortally wounded, then Glover dodged through the crowd and leaped out of a back window.

TWO OTHERS SHOT.

Raley, pursuing, shooting as he went, fatally wounded one negro and seriously wounded another.

Glover escaped, however, and remained concealed until Tuesday morning, when he boarded a Central train for Atlanta.

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DEPUTY'S SLAYER LYNCHED BY MOB

Atlanta Constitution
8-2-22 Rec

Macon Unquiet Following Negro's Killing at Holton After Capture at Griffin.

Macon, Ga., August 1.—(Special.) Following the lynching of "Cockey" Glover, negro gunman who slew Deputy Walter C. Byrd on Broadway last Saturday night, a feeling of unrest prevailed here this evening and city and county authorities were apprehensive of further trouble.

At 11 o'clock tonight everything was quiet in Macon and there was no indication at that hour that any attempt to cause trouble would be made. It was reported at 10 o'clock that a large number of men had congregated at Central City park, but for what purpose could not be learned. An hour later the crowd there is said to have thinned out.

At the Bibb county jail armed deputies surrounded the building and no one was permitted to approach the jail. Judge Malcolm D. Jones visited the jail during the evening and advised the jailer and his deputies as to what they should do in the event that a mob attempted to storm the jail.

"Draw a line," said Judge Jones, "and if anyone comes across it lock him up. If he refuses to be locked up, I am not advocating violence, but you are authorized to use your own judgment."

Judge Jones said Governor Hardwick telephoned him during the evening to know if troops would be needed. Judge Jones replied that he did not think so and was confident the local authorities could handle the situation.

Tonight the body of Cockey Glover was taken to Forsyth by City Detective Homer Hardison. The lynching having taken place in Monroe county, local police authorities decided that it should be taken there so an inquest could be held.

Reports from Forsyth tonight are that the people of that town are somewhat incensed that the lynching should have taken place in Monroe instead of Bibb county. They also do not approve of the manner of returning the body, claiming it should have been taken back to the scene of the crime and the Monroe county authorities permitted to remove it.

It is reported tonight that application will be made to Governor Hardwick for authority to remove two negroes now held in the Bibb county jail under sentence of death in connection with the murder of A. Lee Alligood, a street car motorman, several months ago, to another jail for safekeeping.

There also was some talk of requesting the governor to permit the use of a local military company in the event the situation should later demand it.

C. H. Douglass, Macon's wealthiest negro, and proprietor of a theater on Broadway, near where the killing of Deputy Byrd took place, is said to have received a warning to leave Macon by tonight or he would be killed. Last Saturday, right after the killing of Deputy Byrd, Douglass was threatened and 20 police formed a guard about his house during the night. Both city and county officers say Douglass had nothing to do with the killing and was at home at the time it happened. He is being guarded this evening and will be given every protection possible.

Near Holton, just across the Monroe county line, a mob composed of several hundred Macon and Bibb county men this afternoon took "Cockey" Glover from Chief Deputy Sheriff L. L. Mullally, of Bibb county, and United States Deputy Marshall E. F. Newberry, stood him against a tree and riddled his body with hundreds of bullets, fired from shotguns, rifles and pistols.

Shot Captor.

Glover was taken from Central of Georgia railway passenger train No. 8 at Griffin, this morning about 5 o'clock after he had been identified by Conductor W. H. Beal and pointed out to Policeman T. F. Phelps, of Griffin. The negro was not taken without a struggle, for when the officer approached him and asked him what he had in his pocket, the negro said:

"Aw, that's nothin' but a d——n gun," and then whipped out the weapon and began firing, shooting five times in all, one bullet striking Policeman Phelps in the hand. The officer, with the assistance of passengers on the train, finally subdued Glover and took him to the Spalding county jail, where he was locked up.

Chief of Police L. L. Stanley, of Griffin, held a hurried consultation with the city manager of Griffin, who decided that the negro must be removed from that city and taken to the proper authorities in Macon.

Without warning the Macon authorities, it is said, the negro was placed in an automobile with Chief Stanley, Patrolman Huckabee and A. A. Roane, a farmer residing near Griffin, and the party started on their journey at 7:20 o'clock.

No difficulty was experienced by the mob in gaining custody of Glover, though Deputy Mullally urged that they permit him to take the prisoner to Atlanta or some other place for safekeeping, promising there would be no delay in obtaining a trial for him. Members of the mob refused to accede to the plea and after endeavoring to get Glover to confess, in which they failed, they stood him up before a tree and poured volley after volley into his body.

Throughout the proceedings previous to the shooting, Glover was the coolest person in the crowd. He asked to be permitted to get a drink of water, and denied emphatically that he was the one who shot Deputy Byrd, laying the blame on another unnamed negro.

Displayed the Body.

After the mob had done its work and returned to the city, a second mob formed and proceeded to the scene of the lynching. They secured the body of the negro, placed it in an undertaker's wagon and brought it to Macon.

The police finally managed to get the body into an automobile and rushed it away from the scene. Later in the night it was turned over to a negro undertaker and prepared for burial.

Glover had been in hiding since the murder of Deputy Byrd. He told the officers at Griffin after his arrest that he had been in the swamp below Macon and had had nothing to eat but berries.

The action of the mob in taking Glover from Depuy Mullally and putting him to death nipped in the bud the revelation of a plot, it is understood, which sheriff's officers were in hopes of bringing to light by the capture of Glover.

Charge Murder Plot.

That Glover was hired to kill Deputy Sheriff Byrd by a certain ring of negroes; that the deputy sheriff and other officers were lured to Hatfield's poolroom on Broadway on Saturday for the expressed purpose of allowing Glover to slay him because of his activities in the bringing about the arrest of the alleged murderers of A. Lee Alligood, street car motorman-conductor who was killed on Christmas eve last, is the belief of county authorities. Glover facing certain death by the hands of the mob refused to respond to the officers' questions relative to this plot. The only utterance they were able to secure from the negro when questioned along this line was to the effect, "I'm glad its over with, I want to die. I won't be any more trouble to my mamma."

While sheriff officers have not given up all hopes of bringing about the arrest of the members of the alleged ring, the death of Glover has badly undermined their plans.

NEGRO SLAYER OF DEPUTY IS KILLED

Commercial Appeal

Mob Takes Prisoner From Officers—Body Riddled.

Memphis Tennessee

MACON, Ga., Aug. 1.—A negro identified by officers as John Glover, alias "Cocky," slayer of Walter C. Byrd, deputy sheriff of Bibb County, and George Marshall, negro, here Saturday night, was put to death by a mob of 300 men at 10 o'clock today two miles from Holton. 8-2-22

The negro was taken into custody early today at Griffin after he had shot Policeman T. F. Phelps in the hand. As soon as word of the arrest reached here, the mob set out for Griffin in automobiles. Deputy United States Marshal Ed. Newberry and Deputy Sheriff Lane Mullally, who had the negro in charge, were met on the road just across the Monroe County line and their prisoner taken from them.

He was placed against a tree and several shots fired into his body, after which brush was piled about him and set afire. The fire was extinguished, however, by other members of the mob.

Deputy Sheriff Byrd was killed Saturday when he and other officers went to a negro pool room to quell a disturbance. They were met by Glover, who fired at Byrd, killing him almost instantly. Glover then fired at others in the place, fatally wounding George Marshall, negro, and seriously injuring another negro. He made his escape through a rear window. The shooting was the signal for other disorders and for a time race troubles threatened. These were checked, however, before any serious results.

G. F. C. TRIBUNE
AUGUST 2, 1922

Negro Slaye[illegible] Sheri[illegible]

Mob Takes [illegible] From Captors His Body Wi[illegible]

MACON, Ga., ug. 1 [illegible] negro, slayer of Wa[illegible] deputy sheriff, and an [illegible] taken to-day by a mob [illegible] officers bringing him [illegible] keeping and shot to dea[illegible] tested his innocence.

Glover was in charge of a deputy marshal and a deputy sheriff when overtaken by the mob. The officers pleaded with mob leaders to let the law take its course, but they refused. Then, tying the negro to a pine tree, his body was riddled with bullets. Some of the mob placed dry brush about the body and lighted a fire, but it was quickly extinguished by others.

N Y C WORLD
JULY 25, 1922

GEORGIA LYNCHES ANOTHER.

Negro Stolen From Captors and Body Riddled by Mob.

ELLENTON, Ga., July 24.—The bullet-riddled body of Will Anderson, Negro, charged with attempted attack of a fifteen-year-old white girl near here Sunday, was found on the road near Reedy Creek Church this morning.

Anderson was captured at dawn today by four men who took him to Moultrie to put him in jail. Arriving there they could not find the Sheriff, so the jailer and two of the men left the automobile in which the Negro was held to search for the officers. They had only go[illegible] a short distance when a stranger jumped into the car and drove it toward Ellenton. A mob is said to have met the automobile on the outskirts of Moultrie.

N Y C CALL
AUGUST 2, 1922

Negro Prisoner Accused of Murder Lynched in Georgia

ATLANTA, Ga., Aug. 1. — John Cocky Glover, Negro, alleged murderer of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd, who was shot in a Negro pool room at Macon Saturday night, was taken from officers and lynched near Holton, Ga., today, according to reports here.

The Negro was captured at Griffin, Ga., this morning. Officers were to bring him to Atlanta for safe keeping but at the last minute changed their plans and were taking him to Macon when they were stopped by the mob the reports say.

New York Times
8-2-22

MACON, Ga., Aug. 1.—John Glover, a negro, alleged slayer of Walter C. Byrd, a Deputy Sheriff, and a negro, was taken today by a mob of 300 men from officers bringing him here for safe keeping and shot to death.

Glover was in charge of a deputy marshal and a deputy sheriff when overtaken by the mob. The officers pleaded with the mob leaders to let the law take its course, but they refused. Then, tying the negro to a pine tree, his body was riddled with bullets. Some of the mob placed dry brush about the body and lighted a fire, but it was quickly extinguished by others in the party.

Later the body of Glover, mutilated beyond recognition, was brought here and dumped on the sidewalk in front of a pool room where Deputy Byrd was killed Saturday night. Thousands of curious viewed it, while the police tried to maintain order. Officers finally removed it.

GEORGIA AND ARKANSAS MOBS LYNCH NEGROES

Serious Race Clash Is Threatened in Macon.

N Y C WORLD
AUGUST 2, 1922

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 1.—John Glover, a negro, who is alleged to have shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Bird on Saturday, was shot to death by a mob at Holton, nine miles north of here, at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

Two hours later the mutilated body was dumped into Broadway at the scene of the murder of Bird, where men fought each other to get souvenirs. The negro's clothing was cut into shreds and his shoes and even his socks were carried off.

Closing of Broadway negro business places immediately after the capture of Glover at Griffin, Ga., early this morning probably prevented another serious race clash. Several thousand persons were jammed into the Broadway block and even the removal of the body by the police failed to clear the street.

Glover's body later was taken to the police barracks and from there through a [illegible] door to the morgue and buried

N. Y. C. EVE WORLD
JULY 25, 1922

GEORGIA LYNCHES ANOTHER.

Negro Stolen From Captors and Body Riddled by Mob.

ELLENTON, Ga., July 25.—The bullet-riddled body of Will Anderson, Negro, charged with attempted attack of a fifteen-year-old white girl near here Sunday, was found on the road near Reedy Creek Church yesterday.

Anderson was captured at dawn today by four men who took him to Moultrie to put him in jail. Arriving there they could not find the Sheriff, so the jailer and two of the men left the automobile in which the Negro was held to search for the officers. They had only gone a short distance when a stranger jumped into the car and drove it toward Ellenton. A mob is said to have met the automobile on the outskirts of Moultrie.

N. Y. C. MAIL
JULY 24, 1922

Negro Lynched After Alleged Attack on Girl

Ellenton, Ga., Today.—The bullet-riddled body of Will Anderson, negro, who was charged with having attempted to attack a fifteen-year-old white girl near here Sunday, was found on the road near Reedy Creek Church this morning.

Anderson had been captured at dawn today by four men who took him to Moultrie to put him in jail. When they reached there, they could not find the sheriff and jailer, and two of the men left the automobile in which the negro was held to search for the officers. They had only gone a short distance when a stranger jumped into the car and drove it toward Ellenton. A large party of men is said to have met the automobile on the outskirts of Moultrie and taken the negro out where his body was found later.

N Y C CALL
JULY 25, 1922

Negro Is Kidnaped And Lynched by Mob In Allenton, Georgia

ALLENTON, Ga., July. — Will Anderson, Negro, charged with assaulting a 15-year-old white girl, was lynched near here today. He was kidnaped in front of the jail at Moultrie, taken to a wooded spot and killed.

SLAYER OF BYRD STILL AT LIBERTY

Atlanta Constitution

Two Suspects in Killing of Bibb Deputy Held in

Leesburg Jail—Macon Quiet Sunday.

7-31-22

Macon, Ga., July 30.—(Special.)—Macon returned to normalcy today after a wild night following the murder of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd, in a Broadway pool room by a negro, "Cockey" Glover. It was a night of uncertainties when anything might have happened, but in the end cooler heads prevailed and the sum total of the aftermath of the killing was the beating up of a few negroes, and the taking of pot shots at several others, none of whom were hit.

Glover was still at large today, despite the fact that the negro quarters of the city have been thoroughly combed throughout the day by organized posses. A report from Smithville stated that two negroes had been taken from a freight train there and both had admitted they were in the pool room when Glover shot the deputy, but both denied they had anything to do with the shooting. The Macon authorities do not believe that Glover has left the city and they expect to effect his capture within a few hours.

Negroes Coming Out.

Negroes who took to cover Saturday night when the streets and business houses became unsafe for them, gradually ventured out today and tonight. There was nothing to indicate that they had at any time been in danger. C. H. Douglass, proprietor of a negro theater and barber shop on Broadway, and owner of the building where the shooting occurred, today issued a statement denying he had harbored Glover and expressing regret at the killing. After the murder of Deputy Byrd, Douglass was threatened by a mob and twenty policemen guarded his house throughout the night. Douglass is Macon's wealthiest negro.

There were many who today professed to see connection between the murder several months ago of Motorman Lee Aligood, of the Macon Railway and Light company, for which three negroes have been sentenced to die, and the killing of Deputy Byrd. It was Deputy Byrd who worked up the evidence against the negroes and brought about their conviction. "Cockey" Glover, who, police say, is a petty crook and bootlegger, is known to have had his hangout at Plum street and Broadway, where the slayers of Aligood also were accustomed to congregate.

Negroes Will Die.

George Marshall and Sam Brooks, negroes, who were also shot in the free-for-all in the Broadway pool room when the deputy was killed, were reported to be in a dying condition tonight and are not expected to live through the night.

Eight negroes have been booked at police headquarters in connection with the trouble, but none of them are alleged to have had anything to do with the actual slaying. They are being held more for their own safety than anything else.

TWO SUSPECTS ARE ARRESTED.

Leesburg, Ga., July 30.—Two negroes, believed by the police to have participated in the shooting in a Macon poolroom last night, resulting in the killing of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd, of Macon, were placed in jail here today pending investigation. The negroes, according to the police, admitted they were in Macon at the time of the shooting.

Negro Slayer of Negro Deputy Shot to Death by Mob.

MACON, Ga., Aug. 1.—John Glover, Negro, alleged slayer of Walter C. Byrd, a deputy sheriff, also a Negro, was taken to-day by a mob of 300 men from officers brniging him here for safe keeping and shot to death.

Lynchings - 1922. Illinois. 1151

Cases of

ASKS FOR MATCH IS GIVEN ROPE AND DEATH INSTEAD

Chicago Whet - 7/1/22

Warren Lewis, a young boy of 18 years, went to the kitchen of a white woman and asked for a match to light a cigarette. She saw the man and screamed—it came to her mind that she would like to witness a lynching and she made outcrys. The moment a white woman opens her mouth in this section and a black man is around —it's taken for granted that the "white angel" has been "attacked."

When she opened her mouth, that was enough for the "lynching party" to take place. Crackers took out after him with guns and rifles. The boy was soon overtaken. No time was given to have him appear in open court. They make you confess down here.

White Ministers Attend

Before he was hanged, they made him make a speech, advising all black people to stay in their place, bow to the white man and be "good workers." Warren was then tied to a tree and hanged. The white ministers of the town of Dacus, Texas, the physicians and leaders in white Sunday schools attended the hanging and returned home as jubliant as coming from a Methodist picnic.

Another Exodus North

No effort was made to apprehend the lynchers. The report is that expect to have another in the next month. In the meantime, many of the black are taking the trains north where they are wanted to work in the mills at Gary, Ind., and other sections.

Lynchings - 1922 Iowa

Cases of

1152

SHOT I. C. GUARDS.

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn. 8-5-22

Negro Is Later Killed In Iowa Cornfield By Posse.

CHEROKEE, Iowa, Aug. 4.—An unidentified negro was shot to death today in a cornfield by a posse of 800 men. The negro last night shot and wounded two guards at the Illinois Central yards here and the "posse" formed immediately to search for him. He wounded one of his pursuers before being killed.

Lynchings — 1922
Cases of

Indiana

1153

DEATH FROM STRANGULATION

Indianapolis Ind
Freeman 3/25

The circumstances attending the death of George Tompkins, whose body was found Thursday morning last week suspended from a tree by a rope around his neck and with his hands tied behind him, in the Cold Springs woods, north of the Casino Gardens, are as mystifying to the authorities today as they were when the body was found.

3/25/22

Lynching

Although a difference of opinion has been expressed by some of the detectives who are working on the case, the theory that the man had been murdered before his body had been suspended from the tree seemed to be most generally accepted. Others expressed the belief that Tompkins had committed suicide.

Dr Paul F. Robinson, Coroner, who ordered an autopsy on the dead man's body, said the examination showed that death undoubtedly was due to strangulation.

Harvey Carroll, a cousin of Tompkins, said that until two weeks ago Tompkins had been working at a glass factory in the southeastern part of the city. Tompkins was laid off, Carroll said, and so far as he knew had not been doing anything since then.

Not Despondent, Sister Says.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith, with whom Tompkins had been living, said they had taken care of him since he was nine months old, and they added that his mother has been dead many years. Tompkins told them when he quit work at the glass factory, they said, that he thought he needed a rest.

"He had never been arrested and had not been in trouble of any kind," Mrs. Smith said.

Tompkins left the house about 7:30 a. m. Thursday, Mrs. Smith said, but did not say where he was going. He appeared in good spirits, she said, and at no time appeared despondent or intimated he intended to end his life.

In the young man's pockets were a number of pay envelopes bearing the name of George Tompkins. A notebook in another pocket bore the same name, together with November 23rd, 1901, as the date of birth. There were no other signs or marks of identification.

The body was still warm when it was found by Joseph Bostar, 2815 West Tenth Street. Bostar was walking through the woods, known as Glendale park, when he saw the body leaning against a tree. He ran to the Casino Gardens, a short distance south, where he told attaches of the place what he had seen. The police were called.

Auto Tracks Near.

The detectives found fresh automobile tracks entering the woods and approaching to within about 100 feet of where the body was found. The machine had been turned around at this point and driven away.

It was regarded as possible that he had been dragged a considerable distance by the rope, as it was taut around his neck. They thought it probable that the young man had been brought to the woods and tied to the tree in order to make it seem that he had killed himself or to give the impression that he had died by hanging. The detectives searched the woods, but failed to find anything that would indicate any motive for murder.

Murdered, Dr. Robinson Says.

After examining the body, Dr. Robinson said there could be no question that the man had been murdered and his body then tied to the tree.

"It is one of the most peculiar cases that ever came to my attention," he said. "The man could not have hanged himself."

No bullet marks or other signs of violence were found on the body. Dr Robinson pointed out that along the pathway to the tree, small switches and a number of large limbs had been cut from the trees.

Lynchings - 1922. Indiana

Cases of

1154

INDIANAPOLIS IND NEWS
JULY 6, 1922

RACE PROBLEMS

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People shows in its twelfth annual report that it is determined to continue its fight for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. This bill passed the house by a vote of 230 to 119, last January. It seeks, through federal enactment, to make units of government — such as counties or cities — financially liable for damages when persons are put to death unlawfully, and is being pressed as a possible agency that would lessen the number of lynchings throughout the country.

The association quotes at length from the report of Governor Dorsey, of Georgia, who cited 135 cases of varying degrees of mistreatment of negroes in two years and in only two of these cases were crimes against women alleged. The lynching record of southern states for last year shows a total of sixty-four, according to the association's report. Six of those lynched were white. Georgia led with fourteen lynchings and Mississippi was second with thirteen. Texas and Arkansas had six each; Florida, Louisiana and South Carolina, five each. In nineteen of these cases assaults on women were alleged, and eighteen resulted from allegations of murder.

The annual report classifies all violent deaths caused by mobs under the general head of lynching. Thirty-two victims were hanged and seventeen were shot. Four were burned, two drowned and nine put to death by methods not revealed. Of those hanged, three were burned after death, and of those shot two were burned later. The record shows that burnings occured in Arkansas, Georgia, Louisiana, South Carolina and Texas, but all of these instances were after the victims had been killed by other methods. Thirty-two of the sixty-four killed by personal violence were taken from sheriffs, jailers or other officers of the law. In forty-one cases lynchings were prevented by resisting mobs or by spiriting prisoners away. The prevention of two lynchings is credited to Indiana for last year. In two cases where lynchings were frustrated, leaders of mobs were arrested and punished.

Lynchings — 1922. Louisiana.

Cases of

1146

W. P. C. MAIL
JULY 7, 1922

Lynch Negro for Shooting

Shreveport, La., Today.—Joe Pemberton, negro, was taken from the Bossier Parish jail at Benton by a mob and hanged to a tree in Black Bayou Swamp, two miles from Benton, according to reports reaching here. Pemberton had been arrested and jailed Tuesday night following the shooting of two negro women.

W. P. C. GLOBE
JULY 7, 1922

Negro Hanged.

SHREVEPORT, La., July 7.—Joe Pemberton, Negro, was taken from the Bossier Parish jail at Benton by a mob early to-day and hanged to a tree in Black Bayou Swamp, two miles from Benton, according to reports reaching here last night. Pemberton had been arrested and jailed Tuesday night following the shooting of two Negro women.

LOUISIANA NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB

Montgomery Advertiser 7-8-22

(Associated Press)

SHREVEPORT, LA., July 7.—Joe Pemberton, negro, was taken from the Bossier parish jail at Benton by a mob early today and hanged to a tree in Black Bayou swamp, two miles from Benton, according to reports reaching here tonight. Pemberton had been arrested Tuesday night following the shooting of two negro women.

INVESTIGATE LYNCHING.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn 7-8-22

No Clue Found by Officers in Louisiana Hanging Case.

SHREVEPORT, La., July 7.—Officers of Bossier Parish continued their investigation today of the lynching yesterday of Joe Pemberton, negro, who was taken from the parish jail at Benton by a mob of white men after they had overpowered Deputy Sheriff J. A. Wilson. No clew to the identity of any of the men composing the mob had been found today, officers said.

Pemberton's body was found several hours after he had been taken from the jail, swinging to a tree in a Black Bayou swamp two miles from Benton. He had been placed in the jail Tuesday night, following the shooting of two negro women.

W. P. C. GLOBE
AUGUST 30, 1922

MOB TAKES NEGRO FROM OFFICERS; LYNCHES HIM

SHREVEPORT, La., Aug. 30.—The body of Thomas Rivers, a Negro, who confessed he was the assailant of a young white woman of this city, was found to-day by Bossier Parish authorities, hanging from the limb of a tree near the highway, twelve miles from Shreveport. He was taken from officers by a mob late last night as he was being transferred to Benton, for safe-keeping.

NEGRO HANGED BY MOB IN LOUISIANA

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn 8-31-22

Taken From Sheriff at Night Near Shreveport.

SHREVEPORT, La., Aug. 30.—The body of Thomas Rivers, 25-year-old negro, alleged confessed assailant of a young white woman of this city, was found this morning by Bossier Parish authorities hanging from the limb of a tree near the Shreveport-Bossier highway in Bossier Parish, about 12 miles from Shreveport. He was taken from officers by a mob late last night as he was being transferred to Benton, La., for safe-keeping.

NEGRO CONFESSES TO TWO CRIMINAL ASSAULT ATTEMPTS

Montgomery Advertiser 8-30-22

SHEVEPORT, LA., Aug. 29.—Thomas River, negro, was arrested here late this afternoon by Chief D. D. Brasher of the city police force, in connection with the attack upon a young married woman last night. The negro was identified by the young woman and later made a complete confession in which he admitted also that he is the negro wanted by the authorities of Marshall, Tex., on charges of having attempted to assault a young white girl at that place about a month ago

[illegible] TIMES
AUGUST 31, 1922

Louisiana Mob Lynches Negro.

SHREVEPORT, La., Aug. 30. — The body of Thomas Rivers, a negro, who confessed he was the assailant of a young white woman of this city, was found this morning by Bossier Parish authorities hanging from the limb of a tree near the Shreveport-Bossier highway in Bossier Parish, about twelve miles from Shreveport. He was taken from officers by a mob late last night as he was being transferred to Benton, La., for safe keeping.

HANG AMERICAN CITIZEN

Shreveport, La., Sept. 8.—The body of Thomas Rivers, whom an insane white girl had accused of attacking her, was found swinging from a tree about 12 miles from this city.

MORE LYNCHING IN THE SOUTH

The St. Louis Argus 9-8-22

A Louisiana Mob Pulls Off What Is Called Orderly Affair. Same Old Excuse Given, "Sheriff Overpowered." No Action Is Taken Against The Leaders.

Following close in the wake of the lynching-burning of a Negro in Mississippi last week, comes the news of a lynching in Louisiana.

It is becoming noticable that very little is said of a lynching through the daily press now-a-days. The reason, leaves room for speculation. At least the reports as given the public are usualy styled as a "quiet orderly affair."

The same stereotyped cause (attack on a white woman) is given as a reason. In reporting these occurences, one may always look for the word "officers overpowered" as a kind of shield for the officers who fail to do their duty in protecting their prisoner.

A report of a recent lynching which took place in Louisiana was as follows:

Overpower Officer to Lynch Negro.

SHREVEPORT, La., Aug. 30.—The body of Thomas Rivers, 25 year-old Negro, alleged confessed assailant of a young white woman of this city, was found this morning by Bossier parish authorities hanging from the limb of a tree near the Shreveport Bossier highway in Bossier parish, about 12 miles from Shreveport. He was taken from officers by a mob late last night as he was being transferred to Benton, La., for safekeeping.

No action against lynchers is contemplated by authorities.

Lynchings—1900
Cases of.

Louisiana.

1102

MOB LYNCHES A MURDERER.

Mississippi Negro Who Shot Marshal Richardson Hanged.

[*By The Associated Press.*]

New Orleans, La., Dec. 20.—A special from Gulf Port, Miss., says the posse with hounds which started last night on the trail of the negro Lewis, murderer of Marshal W. E. Richardson, have captured the negro and taken his father prisoner. A third negro, who was with the others, had escaped.

He was taken to a tree half a mile from the scene of his crime and hanged.

The murder occurred last night. Marshal Richardson was having some words with a negro who was demanding that a young white boy should be arrested, when Lewis, who was standing in a crowd, drew his pistol and fired at the marshal, killing him instantly. The crime created intense excitement. The murderer, his brother and father fled immediately.

TIMES

NEW YORK.

June 1900

AN INNOCENT MAN LYNCHED.

Special to The New York Times.

NEW ORLEANS, June 10.—A mob wilfully and knowingly hanged and burned an innocent man, as well as another who was probably innocent, near Mississippi

arrests were made, and two of the suspects, Askew and Russ, were placed in the Mississippi City jail for safe keeping. The proof against neither was more than remotely circumstantial. In the case of Askew the District Attorney made an examination and practically declared the man innocent.

The next night Askew was taken from the jail by a mob and tortured with fire to extort a confession. After the terrible ordeal the mob virtually declared the man guiltless, as they returned him to jail.

Yesterday the District Attorney, at a public meeting at Biloxi, obtained a pledge from the citizens not to molest the prisoners if they were returned for examination. It is stated on good authority that he thought the men could prove their innocence, and the citizens were aware of his views. Some refused to pledge themselves, and yesterday afternoon it was openly asserted that it was out of the question to think of postponing the matter any longer, as the crime merited a lynching.

Last night a crowd went to the jail, secured Askew and Russ, hanged them, fired shots into the bodies, and then built a fire ...

Lynchings - 1922
Cases of

Mississippi.

1147

NEGRO IS FOUND HANGED.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn.
8-23-22

Says Black Had Been Warned Previously to Leave Neighborhood.

JACKSON, Miss., Aug. 22.—The body of Parks Banks, a negro, was found hanging to a tree a few miles from Yaoo City this morning. It was said the negro had been warned to leave the neighborhood. A coroner's jury found that he came to his death by persons whose identity was unknown to the jury.

Lynchings—1922 Mississippi

1148

Cases of

NEGRO ATTACKER MOBBED

First Lynching in Twenty Years Occurs in Copiah County.

Commercial Appeal

CRYSTAL SPRINGS, Miss., Feb. 2.—Break of dawn in Copiah County revealed the suspended, riddled body of Will Thrasher, negro, who came to his death at the end of a hemp rope, and whose shoe bore the pencil printed message: "Positively identified." It was Copia County's first lynching in 20 years.

Memphis

A white school teacher at Fair Play identified the negro as her assailant. Identification was some time after 1 o'clock this morning when the negro was caught by a mob in the house of Harvey Bass here. He was the fourth negro taken before the frightened teacher before she recognized Thrasher.

The attempted attack was just before noon yesterday near the school house. The negro was in the woods, and as the young woman walked from the building he tried to embrace her. She screamed, and in the scuffle fell. A farmer arrived on the scene and the negro ran.

The body, a note and a few feet of rope constitute the evidence at the coroner's inquest today, and the verdict of "unknown parties" was returned. It was estimated that 250 men, not masked, made up the mob which quietly slipped away under the cover of morning darkness after the lynching.

Upon hearing of the attempted assault hundreds of men organized posses and began a search for the negro. Several negroes were arrested, but turned loose on failure of identification. After the attempted assault it was reported that a negro answering the description of the man sought had accosted a little white girl on her way from school, but she ran before he could reach her. In this way the citizens were able to get a line on the guilty negro.

The crowd, after being satisfied as to the negro's guilt, took him across to a big tree on the Crystal Springs and Gatesville road, about three miles east of Crystal Springs, and hung him to an overhanging limb. After he was hung a volley of pistol and gun shots were fired into his body. It is said that he refused to talk or to disclaim his guilt. The hanging occurred about 5 o'clock Thursday morning, and the body was discovered by passersby in the early morning. Sheriff Ramsey was notified, and in company with Judge Townes went to the scene, where a coroner's jury was empaneled. Although the crowd numbered several hundred men, there was no disorder, and every precaution was taken to locate the right man.

BODY OF LYNCHED NEGRO IS FOUND IN MISSISSIPPI

Atlanta Constitution 2/3/1922

Jackson, Miss., February 2.—Lynching of a negro east of Crystal Springs was revealed at daylight today when the body of Will Thrasher was found suspended from a tree east of there. A note, printed in pencil, was tacked to the tree and read that the negro had been identified as the one who attempted to attack a white school teacher at Fairplay yesterday at noon. Authorities are investigating the lynching.

Mississippi Mob Lynches Another

Baltimore

Pontotoc, Miss., Feb. 2.—Overpowering deputies who were taking William Bell, aged 20, to Jackson, Mississippi for safe keeping, a mob of alleged Ku Klux hung him to a tree and shot him to death, Sunday. 2/3/22

Chicago Tribune

Young Bell was charged with having insulted a white woman.

Body of Negro, Lynched, Found Hanging to Tree

Chicago Tribune 2/3/22

Jackson, Miss., Feb. 2.—Lynching of a Negro east of Crystal Springs was revealed today when the body of Will Thrasher was found suspended from a tree there. A note, printed in pencil, was attached to the tree and read that the Negro had been identified as the one who attempted to attack a white school teacher at Fair Play yesterday at noon.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY MISSISSIPPI MOB

Montgomery Advertiser

Negro Charged With Assaulting White Woman Taken From Officers and Killed

1/30/22

(Associated Press)

PONTOTOC, MISS., Jan. 29.—Will Bell, negro, charged with an attack on a young white woman near here, last night, was taken from officers early today as he was being transferred to Jackson, Miss., for safekeeping, and was shot to death by a number of unidentified men, who intercepted the officers near town as they were taking the prisoner to a train.

Sheriff Blaylock, fearing the negro would be lynched, arranged with the conductor of the Jackson train to stop outside of the town for the prisoner and accompanied by a number of deputies, he made a rush for the train in a closed automobile. On the outskirts of Pontotoc, another closed car stopped, an unidentified man jumped from the blockading automobile, and pulling aside the side curtains of the sheriff's car emptied his revolver into the body of the negro, before the officers could interfere.

The negro fell across the running board, and a fusillade of shots from men hidden in the other automobile ended his life. The members of the mob drove rapidly away, and efforts to identify them, or the car they were driving have failed.

Take Colored Man from Officers and Lynch Him

Chicago Daily News 1/30/22

Pontotoc, Miss., Jan. 29.—Will Bell, 20, a colored man charged with having attacked a young white woman last night, was taken from officers today by a number of men as he was being transferred to Jackson, Miss., for safe keeping and was shot to death.

NEGRO ATTACKER OF PONTOTOC WOMAN DEAD

Sheriff's Efforts to Save Man Fail.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn. 1/30/22

PONTOTOC, Miss., Jan. 29.—William Arthur Bell, negro youth who early last night attacked Mrs. Will Dillard, wife of a clerk in a local store, is dead, the victim of shots fired by unknown parties here this morning, the killing have occurred while the local authorities were attempting to spirit the negro out of town to Jackson, Miss., for safe keeping.

Bell spent last night closely guarded in the jail here, following his capture by an armed posse. This morning many curious persons came to Pontotoc after news of the attack and capture of the negro had spread about the district and local authorities, after getting into consultation with Judge Long, at Tupelo, received instructions to remove the prisoner to the state capital for safe keeping.

Mayor Winston and Sheriff Blaylock, who were actively working to prevent threatened trouble, thereupon decided to place the negro aboard the Gulf, Mobile & Northern train which leaves here shortly after 11 a.m. The mayor went to the depot when this train pulled in and got the conductor to agree to stop at the Pearson Street crossing, just south of town, at which point it was planned to secretly put the negro on board.

As soon as these arrangements had been completed Sheriff Blaylock with a number of armed deputies, placed the negro quietly in an automobile which, with curtains drawn closely, started on a wild dash from the jail to the crossing. When this auto had traversed only about half of the distance, and just as the car was turning Anderson's corner a large unidentified auto, with curtains also closely drawn, sped out across the street ahead of the sheriff's car, blocking the roadway, which at this point is very narrow.

Negro Is Wounded.

Before the sheriff and his deputies realized what was happening, an unidentified man jumped out of the other car, quietly approached the rear of the sheriff's auto, thrust his hand containing a pistol, through the curtains and fired a bullet into the body of the crouching negro on the rear seat. The negro tried to jump from the car and escape, but fell upon the running board.

As the negro fell a fusillade of shots was opened from the other car, the negro's head being literally riddled with bullets. The other car then sped quickly away and thus far has not been located.

Sheriff Blaylock and his deputies, as well as the driver of the sheriff's car, stated after the clash that the shooting took place so quickly after their car was stopped and that the smoke from the firing was so intense that it was impossible to recognize any one of the party in the other car. No other persons witnessed the killing.

Sheriff Blaylock, after ascertaining that the negro was dead, brought the body back to the jail yard, where it was viewed by hundreds this afternoon before being turned over to the man's relatives.

It was reported here this afternoon that rumors got about over the city this morning that Judge Long had stated that it would be impossible to give the negro a speedy trial and that this led to the hurried plan to take vengeance away from the legal authorities.

Pontotoc Is Quiet.

All is quiet here tonight and authorities anticipate no more trouble.

Mrs. Dillard, who was able to fight off her attacker last night, tonight was still confined to her bed because of her injuries at the hands of the negro. Following the capture of the negro last night, he was taken before Mrs. Dillard, who positively identified him, before being locked up in the jail here.

The guilt of Bell, in addition to the identification of the negro by Mrs. Dillard, was further proved after his capture last night, when he was found to be wounded in the shoulder. After the negro who attacked Mrs. Dillard had been frightened off and ran through the Dillard home in trying to escape, Magistrate Herbert Weatherall, passing and who went to Mrs. Dillard's aid, fired at the fleeing man with a shotgun, wounding him in the shoulder.

IN SHERIFF'S CAR, NEGRO IS LYNCHED

Gun Emptied Into Body of Negro Before Mississippi Law Officers Can Interfere.

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 1/30/22

Pontotoc, Miss., January 29.—Will Bell, 20, a negro charged with an attack on a young white woman near here last night, was taken from officers early today as he was being transferred to Jackson, Miss., for safekeeping, and was shot to death by a number of unidentified men, who intercepted the officers near town as they were taking the prisoner to a train.

Sheriff Blaylock, fearing the negro would be lynched, arranged with the conductor of the Jackson train to stop outside the town for the prisoner and accompanied by a number of deputies he made a rush for the train in a closed automobile. On the outskirts of Pontotoc, another closed car was drawn up across the road, blocking traffic. When the sheriff's car stopped, an unidentified man jumped from the blockading automobile and pulling aside the curtains of the sheriff's car, emptied his revolver into the body of the negro before the officers could interfere.

The negro fell across the running board and a fusillade of shots from men hidden in the other automobile ended his life. The members of the mob drove rapidly away, and efforts to identify them or the car they were driving have failed.

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN JANUARY 30, 1922

Mississippi Mob Shoots Accused Negro to Death

PONTOTOC, Miss., Jan. 29.—Will Bell, twenty, a negro, charged with having attacked a young white woman last night, was taken from officers to-day by a number of unidentified men as he was being transferred to Jackson, Miss., for safe keeping.

He was shot to death.

BOSTON MASS HERALD JANUARY 30, 1922

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB IN MISSISSIPPI

PONTOTOC, Miss., Jan. 29—Will Bell, 20, a negro, charged with having attacked a young white woman last night, was taken from officers today by a number of unidentified men, as he was being transferred to Jackson, Miss., for safe keeping, and was shot to death.

Lyncher's Toll For the Week

While Congress Delays Passage of Dyer Bill.

Pittsburgh Pa. 2/4/1922

JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 10.—Lynching of a Negro east of Crystal Springs was revealed here when the body of Will Thrasher was found suspended from a tree east of there. A note printed in pencil was tacked to the tree, and read that Thrasher had been identified as the one who attempted to attack a white school teacher at Fairplay. Authorities are investigating the lynching.

Mob 'Overpowers' Sheriff

Chicago Trib 2/11/22

PONTOTOC, Miss., Feb. 11—William Arthur Bell was lynched here last week while a posse pretended they were trying to spirit him out of town. Bell had been placed in the sheriff's auto, curtains were drawn and the auto was speeding through a back street, however when it reached a narrow part of the street another automobile, also curtained, ran in front of it and stopped, blocking the way. One of the occupants shot into the sheriff's car and Bell jumped to the running board; then the others opened fire upon him and killed him. The sheriff and his deputies were armed and presumably awake but no account is given of any shots fired by the sheriff or his party neither was the car number noticed and the persons guilty of the lynching escaped without a scratch.

Associated Negro Press.

PONTOTOC, Miss., Feb. 8.—Will Bell, 20, charged with an attack on a young white woman near here last week was taken from officers in the morning as he was being transferred to Jackson, Miss., for safekeeping, and was shot to death by a number of unidentified men. 2/10/22

Sheriff Blaylock fearing he would be lynched, arranged with the conductor of the Jackson train to stop outside the town for the prisoner and accompanied by a number of deputies he made a rush for the train in a closed automobile. On the outskirts of Pontotoc, another closed car was drawn up across the road, blocking traffic.

When the sheriff's car stopped, an unidentified man jumped from the blocking automobile and pulling aside the curtains of the sheriff's car, emptied his revolver into the body of the Negro before the officials could interfere.

JACKSON, Miss., Feb. 22.—News has just been received here of the lynching which took place Saturday night at Crystal Springs about 22 miles west of here.

According to information, Will Thrasher, Colored, was arrested Sat morning by a deputy sheriff who claimed that Thrasher had used some insulting remarks to a school teacher on Friday.

No one seemed to give the matter of the arrest any attention and it is not known wheather Thrasher was ever locked up. It is the general belief that the deputy kept his victim in hiding somewhere during the day and early part of the night, while certain confederate worked up the lynching party who, after torturing their victim, hung him to a tree about two miles from the city. It was the next day that the body was discovered hanging from a limb of a tree by some children on their way to Sunday school, who reported the matter. A little excitement was noticed among the colored people following the discovery of the body as Thrasher was well known here and was employed at the grocer store of Ben Grimes.

There is some mystery surrounding the affair. The whites deny any knowledge of the murder. Even the sheriff declares that no arrest had been made of Thrasher so far as he knew. The colored people didn't have an inkling of what had happened until Sunday.

A note was taken to a tree near the body stating that, Thrasher has insulted a school teacher. No other information as to who committed the crime has come to light at this time.

It looks as though nothing will be done in the case.

NEGRO LYNCHED AFTER ATTACK ON CHILD

N. Y. C. JOURNAL
MARCH 8, 1922

Mother and Other Women Hold Asailant of Six-Year-Old Until Men Arrived.

By Universal Service.

ABERDEEN, Miss., March 8.—William Baker, a negro, was lynched early to-day following his capture by several women after he had criminally attacked the six-year-old daughter of a prominent Monroe County planter.

The child's screams brought her mother. Other women of the neighborhood came to assist her.

The women held the negro until their men folks arrived. Sheriff Lewis was called, but when he arrived the negro was hanging from a tree.

WOMAN IN CASE.

Wife of Louisiana Man Killed by Mob Talks.

Commercial Appeal

NATCHEZ, Miss., March 15.—While authorities of Franklin Parish, La., are silent regarding the alleged lynching of Brown Culpepper by a party of seven or eight men at Holly Grove, his wife, who has been living in Natchez for the past few days, indicates that Culpepper was in trouble over a woman in the parish at the time that he was killed.

On being told of the killing of Culpepper, his wife, who had not been living with him, said that he had been in Natchez only a few days before seeking to compel her to agree to a divorce, which she had refused. Culpepper had two of their children with him at the time that he was killed, and following the tragedy they were taken in charge by Sheriff Jesse Gilbert, who is seeking to make provisions for their welfare.

Eight men were arrested following the killing of Culpepper. They are P. M. Ursery, Sr., P. M. Ursery, Jr., J. C. Farrington, Charlie Parson, George Wactor, Albert Farrington, Charlie Chandler and Eugene Bradshaw.

At an inquest following the killing of Culpepper it was learned that a party of unmasked men went to the farm where Culpepper lived last year, but failing to find him, drove their automobiles to the place of D. K. Minter, where they left their cars and walked about a mile to the house of J. R. Hutto, where Culpepper was found. It is stated that Culpepper was called and when he refused to leave the house the party entered and shot him. It was stated that following this the evidence indicated that the men went to the Minter place and drove off in different directions. Most of the men arrested live in the vicinity of Wisner. While Culpepper was not a man of prominence in the parish it was stated by Sheriff Gilbert that he had never been considered a law violator.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY MISSISSIPPI MOB

Montgomery Advertiser

ABERDEEN, MISS., March 7.—Willie Baker, an eighteen year old negro, was lynched by a mob ten miles north of here today. He was accused of having attacked the six year old daughter of a prominent farmer late Monday afternoon.

3/8/22

The girl's mother hearing her daughter's screams, ran to assist her, and, with the help of other women of the neighborhood, held the negro until men arrived. A constable secured the man from the mob, and early today started to Aberdeen, only to be forced to surrender his prisoner on the road. Officials from Aberdeen went to the scene today and found the negro's body hanging to a tree.

AGED NEGRO KILLED

Body Found Near Gulfport With Three Bullet Wounds.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn.

GULFPORT, Miss., March 22.—The body of Alex Smith, an aged negro, with three bullet perforations, was found suspended from a bridge near here today. Considerable mystery surrounds the hanging. Recently two white girls were removed by officers from a house of ill-fame, operated by the negro, according to the police.

LYNCH AGED MISS. MAN

Boston Mass Guardian

ONLY HINTED REASON WAS KEEPING HOUSE OF ILL FAME FREQUENTED BY WHITE WOMEN.

3/25/22

Gulfport, Miss., March 22, 1922.—The body of Alex Smith, an aged Colored man, was found suspended from a bridge near here today. Recently two white girls were removed by officers from a house of ill repute, which, the police say, was operated by Smith.

CITIZENS HANG NEGRO.

Attacker of Six-Year-Old Girl Meets Quick Punishment.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn.

ABERDEEN, Miss., March 7.—Willie Baker, 18 year old negro, was found hanging from a mulberry tree, 10 miles north of Aberdeen, this morning. Late Monday afternoon the negro criminally attacked the six-year-old daughter of one of the most prominent families in Monroe County.

The negro was told to carry a buggy down to a shelter and the little girl got in the buggy and rode down to the shelter. There was a negro cabin near and the negro carried the little girl into this cabin. Her screams attracted the attention of her mother, who, with a friend, ran to the cabin, caught the negro and held him until help arrived.

The constable of that district started to Aberdeen with the negro, but had gone only about two miles when enraged citizens took the negro and hanged him.

Officials of the sheriff's office were notified to go for the negro, and two deputies went out on the road to the spot where they were directed. After waiting an hour no one turned up and they returned to Aberdeen without their prisoner.

ROCKFORD, ILL., REPUBLIC
JANUARY 31, 1922

MOB SLAYS NEGRO OF SO. BELOIT

Riddled with bullets, the body of William Bell, South Beloit negro, lies in the coroner's morgue at Pontotoc, Miss.

Assault charges in connection with an alleged attack upon a white woman near the county line last summer still remain on file here, according to State's Atty. William Johnson, but will be withdrawn as soon as official notice of Bell's death is received here.

A man hunt in the Mississippi city last Saturday resulted in the capture of Bell following an attack on a white woman. Bell was shot to death by a party of unidentified men who intercepted an automobile in which he was being taken from Pontotoc for safe keeping.

Deputies from Sheriff Baldwin's office and authorities of southern Wisconsin spread a drag-net in an effort to capture Bell following the assault on the South Beloit woman. The negro succeeded in eluding the officers and apparently made his escape to the south.

No word had been heard from him since he disappeared last summer until a dispatch today carried the news of his death.

MISSISSIPPI MOB HANGS NEGRO RAPIST

(Associated Press)

SUMMIT, MISS., June 20.—Bob Collins, a negro, charged with having attempted an attack on a white woman near here several months ago, was lynched by a mob today.

Marshal E. L. Blount of Summit captured the negro last night near Pontchatoula and this morning took him to the home of the young woman. She is said to have identified him as her assailant.

A mob quickly formed and the negro was taken from the marshal and hanged to a tree. Not a shot was fired and the crowd, estimated at 100 men, made no demonstration.

N. O. C. GLOBE
JUNE 21, 1922

Mob Hangs Negro.

SUMMIT, Miss., June 21.—Bob Collins, Negro, charged with having attempted an attack on a white woman near here several months ago, was hanged by a mob. The young woman assailant.

NEGRO ASSAILANT IS SHOT AND BURNED

Montgomery Advertiser

LAMBERT, MISS., Aug. 23.—Word was received here today that a negro farm hand, known as "Barrow," and charged with having attacked the wife of a planter at a farming settlement near here yesterday, was shot and killed by members of a searching party when he attempted to escape last night and his body taken to the scene of the alleged crime and burned.

WOMAN LIGHTS TORCH FOR MOB WHO BURNS COLORED MAN TO DEATH

Birmingham Ala. Reporter

(By the Associated Negro Press)

Lambert, Miss., Aug. 31.—John Steelman, thirty-five-year-old colored man, was burned at the stake near here by a torch applied by Mrs. Bruce White, the wife of a planter, whom he attempted to assault. John was cornered in a dense thicket by a posse. He was armed and attempted to cover his pursuers, but before he could shoot he was wounded. He was dragged back several miles to the scene of the crime and Mrs. White applied the torch to the pyre.

WOMAN APPLIES TORCH AT SOUTHERN LYNCHING

Baltimore Afro-American

Lambert, Miss., Sept. 1.—John Steelman, 35 years old, was burned at the stake near here Tuesday night by a torch applied by Mrs. Bruce White, whom it is alleged, the man had attempted to assault.

NEGRO SHOT AND BURNED AT A STAKE

Mississippi Mob Lynches A Man In Quick Time. Crime Is Termed A "Quiet And Orderly Affair." Victim Believed To Be Innocent.

St. Louis Argus

Special To The Argus.

GREENVILLE, Miss., Aug. 29.—What may be styled as a "quiet and orderly" lynching-burning took place at Lamont, Bolivar County last Friday shortly after noon.

The victim, L. Barrow, was caught by a mob after he had been wounded, was taken to the little "berg" and burned at the stake. 9-1-22

No excitement seemed to prevail during the lynching burning. Few knew what was going on until flames from the coal oil and human flesh reached the skies. By the time the large crowd gathered, what was called the "fun" was over.

Wild stories were told as to the cause of the lynching-burning, but no one seemed to know just who was the cause. So far as could be learned, Barrow was a stranger in the community and had been employed on a plantation near Lamont. He had trouble with his employer and left the farm. He was followed to the little "berg" by his then former boss who told some of the neighbors that the Negro had attacked a white woman. As is usually the case, no efforts were made to ascertain who the woman was or what was meant by an "attack." It is generally believed now that it was a fake charge against the Negro because he dared to leave the plantation without the consent of his employer, who knowing the sentiment against the Negro, was attempting to remain his help.

BROOKLYN STAND'D UNION
AUGUST 26, 1922

NEGRO BURNED AT STAKE BY MISSISSIPPI MOB

BATESVILLE, Miss., Aug. 25.—A negro, known as "Bear," accused of attacking a married woman, was burned at the stake near Crowder Tuesday night, according to information reaching here to-day. The negro was trailed to a swamp by bloodhounds and captured. He resisted and was shot. The burning followed.

Lynchings—1922
Cases of

Oklahoma.

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STRIKE BREAKER HANGED

Negro Packing House Worker Found in Woods

Commercial Appeal

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Jan. 17.—The body of Jake Brooks, negro, who was kidnaped from his home here Sunday night was found this afternoon hanging from a limb of a tree six miles south of town by a party of searchers, headed by Chief of Police Clark, according to a telephone message received at police headquarters. Brooks had been employed at a local packing plant since the calling of the strike of packing house workers.

According to the message the body appeared to have been hanging from the limb about two days. It was only ten yards from a roadway.

Brooks was taken from his home by seven armed white men who drove up in two motor cars and called him out, according to others in the house.

The men, who were not masked, were said to have forced the negro to enter one of the automobiles after which they dashed away. When officers reached Brooks' home in response to a call, the whole neighborhood was in an uproar.

Colored Strikebreaker Hanged in Oklahoma

Chicago Daily Tribune 1/18/22

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 17.—The body of Jake Brooks, colored man, who was kidnaped from his home here Sunday night, was found this afternoon hanging from a tree six miles south of town. Brooks had been employed at a local packing plant since the calling of the strike of packing house workers.

FOUND HANGING TO TREE

Baltimore Herald 1/18/22

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 17.—The body of Jake Brooks, Negro, who was kidnapped from his home here Sunday night, was found this afternoon hanging from a limb of a tree six miles south of town, according to telephone messages received at police headquarters. Brooks had been employed at a local packing plant since the calling of the strike of packing house workers.

LYNCH STRIKEBREAKER

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 20.—Jake Brooks was found hanging from a tree six miles from this city. Brooks, who had been employed in the packing plant since the strike of the regular employees, was kidnaped from his home and his whereabouts unknown until he was found dangling from a tree.

Burn Two Colored Men to Death in Oklahoma City

Chicago Daily Tribune 1/24/22

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 23.—A report of the investigation into the burning to death of two colored men in a frame shack in the packing house district here early today is being made to Gov. Robertson by Adjt. Gen. Charles F. Barrett and Col. B. H. Markham of the Oklahoma national guard, who were detailed to investigate. There was no indication as to what action the governor would take, if any.

OKLAHOMA MOB SETS FIRE TO NEGRO PACKER'S HOME

Packer and Wife Burned Alive; City May Be Put Under Martial Law

Pittsburgh Courier 1/28/22

Oklahoma City, Jan. 23.—Martial law appeared imminent for this city today. Governer J. B. Robertson had ordered a complete investigation of the burning to death of two Negroes this morning and was preparing to call State guards, it was stated at the Capitol. Reports that the order preclaiming martial law had been signed were denied.

The city was in a state of excitement following the fire, in which a Negro packing house worker and his wife were burned in their home. Evidence of violence was found in the badly crushed skull of the Negro.

WOMAN AND MAN MURDERED AND BURNED BY MOB

St. Louis Argus

Their Charred Bodies Are Found In Ruins Of Home After Conflagration. The Woman's Head is Missing. Packing Plant Strikers Blamed For Crime.

1/27/22

Special to the Argus.

OKLAHOMA CITY, Ok., Jan. 25—The people of this city and state are wrought-up over the killing-burning of Willis and Mercy Hall, his wife here early last Sunday morning, by a mob who broke into their homes and mobbed them to death and then burned their home, leaving the bodies in the flames.

Mystery Surrounds Killing

The whole affair seems to be shrouded with mystery so far as the officials are concerned. However two colored men have been arrested in the case, and the authorities are holding them in the belief that they will "tell something" soon.

It is generally believed that a mob of strikers, desperate in their efforts to win the strike at the Packing plants broke in on, and killed Willis Hall, who had been working at the plant and killed his wife, and burned their home to conceal their crime.

The County Coroner who held the inquest over the charred bodies was not able to fix the blame nor was he able to tell just how the victims came to their deaths.

Woman's Body Decanitated

A search for the head of Mrs. Willis is being made as the head was missing from the chared body taken from the ruins of Willis' home last Sunday. It is thought that the mob cut her head off and has it in hiding as a souvenir.

Chas. McCloud, special investigator for the Governor, believes that the head of the woman will be found but refuses to give his reasons for the statement.

Strikers Blamed

While there have been no official actions taken against anyone as yet but public opinion lays the charge of this astrocious crime at the door of the strikers just as was in the case of Jake Brooks who was lynched here on the 14th, for whose murder five men have been convicted and are facing the "pen."

A Subtle Situation

On the surface, everything seems to be quiet here today except a few comments of the convictions in the Brooks case. But the close observer, can see an intense unrest among all classes. No one will trust the other and, at times it almost seems like a smouldering volcano which is threatening to blow up at any moment.

The Colored people are cautious in their going out and their coming in But are beginning to prepare for the worst.

As time roll on, no one will venture to predict what tomorrow will bring forth.

Two Negroes Lynched

N.Y. City Tribune

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Jan. 17.—The body of Jake Brooks, negro, who was kidnaped from his home here Sunday night, was found this afternoon hanging from a limb of a tree six miles south of town by a party of searchers, headed by Chief of Police Clark, according to a telephone message received at Police Headquarters. Brooks had been employed at a local packing plant since the calling of the strike of packing-house workers.

OKLAHOMA MAN HELPS TO LYNCH HIS OWN COUSIN

Baltimore Afro-American 2/3/22

Was Sworn To Secrecy, But Later Confessed And Named Mob

Members

DEAD MAN STRIKEBREAKER

Disobeyed Orders And Went To Work In Union Packing Plant

(Associated Negro Press)

Oklahoma City, Okla., Feb. 1.—Lynching received a set-back in Oklahoma last week. Five men, three of them white, were sentenced to life imprisonment when they pleaded guilty today to charges of complicity in lynching Jake Brooks. The trial was one of the speediest in the history of the State.

The white men are Lee Whitley, Elmer Yeartal, striking members of the Butcher Workmen's Union, and Charles Polk, a Union sympathizer. The colored are Robert Allen, cousin of Brooks, and Nathan Butler, also union men.

Allen made a clean breast of the atrocity at the county jail last Sunday to state and county authorities. He related in detail every incident of the crime from the time the five lynchers left headquarters of the Butcher Workmen's Union on Exchange Avenue in Packingtown until they returned to the union hall after swinging Brooks on a [illegible] east of the city less than a hundred yards from the Grand Boulevard.

Occasional acts of violence which marked the strike of packing employees beginning Monday, December 5 reached the climax Saturday night when Brooks, employed at the Wilson Plant was taken from his home at 1805 East Fourth street by two motor car loads of strikers, spirited away to an isolated spot southeast of the Capitol Hill district and hung.

Taken From Supper

Brooks, who had been ill, was sitting at the supper table with his wife and little daughter when the lynching party arrived. Two white men, their hats pulled down to shade their faces knocked at the door. Brook's little daughter answered.

"Does Jake Brooks live here?" she was asked. She replied he did. The two men, revolvers drawn, forced their way into the house and seized Brooks. "Nathan Butler turned you in," one of the men said. "We are going to fix you up right."

Brooks was forced into one of the motor cars. The party sped away. Brooks was never seen until the following Tuesday when his body was seen swinging from the tree by B. A. Reed, 1005 East Fifth street.

$2,500 Offered In Rewards

The discovery of Brook's body brought about a tense situation which resulted in an appeal being made for the institution of martial law. Governor Robertson offered a reward of $2,000 for the apprehension and conviction of the lynchers. A reward of $500 for each of the party was offered by the Chamber of Commerce.

Nathan Butler, another colored man, implicated by Allen's confession, and Allen were arrested by Dancy's order the Sunday after Brook's disappearance. They were released but were shadowed by deputy sheriffs in hope of obtaining information. The day Brooks' body was discovered, Allen and Butler were arrested by the city police.

Dancy ordered the men brought to the county jail, where he questioned them. Deputy sheriffs immediately began to make additional arrests. A total of twenty-five arrests were made. The men were held in separate sells and questioned.

Thursday Allen confessed to Dancy. He declared he would have told about the lynching the day after it occured but that he feared that his life would be taken by the strikers.

"The men out there (referring to Packingtown) would get me if I told," Allen said to Sheriff Dancy. "They told me the night they hung Brooks that they would hang me too if I told. They all took an oath not to say anything about the hanging."

Has Lost 40 Pounds

Allen has lost more than forty pounds since his confession. His clothes hang about his body in folds. All night he alternately cries and prays, Luther Bishop, jailer said, when Sheriff Dancy is near. Allen follows him like a shadow, evidently deriving a sense of security from the nearness of the sheriff.

Roscoe Dungee, editor of the Black Dispatch executed a coup when he secured a picture of the hanging body and sent copies to President Harding, the Oklahoma delegation in Congress and 200 copies to Representative Dyer who is pushing the Anti-lynching Bill.

1155

Lynchings - 1922 Pennsylvania

Cases of

1156

PITTSBURG PA. DISPATCH
JULY 4, 1922

What's Law Among Mobs?

Plain defiance to law is distinctly marked by the latest mob demonstration in Georgia. Two Negroes convicted of a capital crime, but respited by Governor Hardwick, were taken from a deputy sheriff and lynched. The irony of the affair is that the prisoners were being removed to Savannah for safety when the murder occurred. When the deputy reached Savannah without his charges he explained what happened, and that for the time seems to be the end of the incident.

From brushing aside the law in minor acts to ignoring judicial procedures and orders in more serious cases and then open defiance of executive authority are steps soon taken when public guardians of law and order fail to suppress the unsocial and unethical outbreaks. Viewed broadly the people of a State who trample upon laws and courts and executive officials, as the inhabitants of Georgia have done so frequently in recent months, are in a state of rebellion against authority. In this case, as well as others, there could be no question of punishment under the law, since the men had been convicted and were under sentence, which the Governor's respite merely temporarily postponed. But the mob stands law and courts aside for the swifter methods of murder by the pack. It will be interesting to observe what Governor Hardwick will do now.

WHITE MEN AS RAPISTS AND LYNCHERS.

Pittsburgh American 8-4-22

For the past few weeks we have been reading in the daily press shocking stories of white men accused of the crime of rape. These alleged attacks have been perpetrated against both white and Negro girls. In seven instances the victims were under sixteen years of age. We have no way of knowing whether or not these men are guilty, only that they have been thus accused and placed in jail to await trial. Some months ago a white man was apprehended in Arkansas and charged with the responsibility of being the father of a child by a fourteen year old half-witted colored girl. In another city a white man is held charged with both rape and sodomy on a Negro child.

We say that all these things have happened and white men, proud, superior, dominant and conquering lords of creation, have been jailed and designated as the guilty ones. And yet, as far as we can learn there has been neither lynching nor threat of lynching. Young white girls have been mal-treated in southern localities but there have been no public burnings and no mad scramble for these white men's toes, ears and fingers. The law has been allowed to take its course and without speed or haste. It has not been found necessary to call the court in hurried session, to try men one day and hang them the next in order to appease the blood lust of the mob, for there was no mob.

The south has said that lynching is the result of rape. It seems though that the lynching mania is aroused only when the rapist or the alleged rapist, moves and has his being beneath a black skin. The southerner seems to have no interest in his own or his neighbor's women-folk when white men are accused of molesting them.

Of course it is generally known that the raping and prostituting of Negro women, by white men, is no new thing. This practice has been in vogue for over two centuries. At this point the doctrine of social inequality is thrown to the winds. Statutory rape on young Negro girls is a favored pastime on the South and Anglo-Saxon superiority, which the whites claim dates back to the Garden of Eden, is forgot. That is it is out of mind until some fifteen year old Negro boy is accused of raping some forty year old white woman. Then to make America safe for white folk, rope and kerosine are introduced.

Even if it were true, which it is not, that Negroes are lynched for rape, why is it, that white men accused of the same crime are not burned at the stake? Why are the savage emotions that lead to lynching, stirred up only when the criminal or alleged criminal is a black man? Why is it a worse offense for a Negro to rape a white woman than for a white man to commit the same act? Why does one get an orderly trial and the other get mutilated and roasted?

We feel that the white women of the South themselves are beginning to sense the import of this strange state of affairs. A group of them has said that the continual lynching of Negro men is not necessary to insure their safety.

We have an inkling that the superior Anglo-Saxon male has made a painful discovery. It has dawned upon him that color of skin and texture of hair are not in themselves, sufficient to keep human beings apart. Reasoning by analogy would of course have told him this long ago. But they have not come to their conclusions by any process of reasoning. They have seen for themselves and believed.

Lynchings—1922
Cases of

South Carolina

1149

NEGRO IS LYNCHED.

Was Accused of Having Relations with White Woman.

Commercial Appeal

FLORENCE, S. C., Jan. 3.—According to supposedly reliable information received here today one negro was killed, another whipped Sunday by a mob of white citizens in the Black river section of Williamsburg county, near the Florence county line.

It is reported that the negro was accused of being intimate with a white woman. Letters from the woman were found in his pocket after the lynching, it is said. The woman went to Kingstree Monday and sought protection of the sheriff after having spent Sunday night in the swamps.

"LOVE GREATER THAN COLOR FOR ME," SHE WRITES

Re

Pockets of Victim Lynched by Carolina Mob Give Up Secret Letters

Chicago Defender 1/14/22

Florence, S. C., Jan 13.—A mob of white farmers and business men celebrated the New Year near the county line between Florence and Williamsburg by a lynching. The report came through the office of Sheriff Gamble of Williamsburg county. A party sent to locate the body found it dangling from a tree limb. Bullets had perforated the face of the victim to such a degree that he was beyond recognition. However, his identity is said to be known among a few here.

Woman Wrote Letters

The mob is certain that they lynched the right party, according to reports. A letter found in the victim's pocket read as follows:

"Dearest Ed:

"I thought of you all during the show last night, and wanted you with me. It is too bad that we cannot be together always. My love for you is greater than you can imagine. Sometimes I become so disgusted with conditions in Florence that I want to leave and go some place where people are sensible, where I can at least walk the streets with you in the daytime without danger and fear.

"You often impress on me the fact that you are Colored and can't take any chances. I know that, darling, but love is greater than color in my case, and we must do the best we can until both of us are in position to leave Florence.

"I suppose you got the package I sent by mail to the barber shop for you. I have to be careful in buying things downtown, because my little niece goes along with me and is so nosey. I had a beautiful shirt for you, but had to give it to my cousin because niece saw me purchase it.

"Be a good boy and don't forget tomorrow. Yours,

"DEVOTED."

Relatives Caused Lynching

Several other letters were found on the body, but were smeared with blood to such an extent that they were unreadable. The woman shielded her identity by signing her name "Devoted." However, people here assert that she is known and was the aggressor in the love affair. The victim of the mob is said to have been warned to leave the city by his personal friends who feared trouble because of the woman's boldness. Reliable sources give the information that relatives of the woman knew of her episode, but social standing forced them to conceal the affair. Whether they were instrumental in encouraging mob violence to destroy the woman's sweetheart has not been learned.

TWO LYNCHED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Negro Charged With Intimacy With White Woman Riddled With Bullets

Pittsburgh Courier 1/7/22

Florence, S. C., Jan. 20.—Two unknown men were lynched by a mob of whites Sunday night in the Black River section of Williamsburg county, near Florence county line.

The body of one of the men was riddled with bullets. In his pockets were found a number of letters from a white woman with whom he had been accused of having intimate relations. It is stated that the woman had been driven out of Williamsburg county recently on this account and had moved over the line into Florence county.

The white woman and colored man liked each other and were very frequently seen together. He was at her home Saturday night when the mob approached. Leaping into a buggy he and another Negro man wtih him attempted to elude the mob which followed in hot pursuit firing volleys into the back of the buggy.

With her baby in her arms the woman escaped into the woods and spent the night there going to Kingstree when the sun rose and asking for protection. She was given sufficient money to pay her railroad fare to Hartsville.

When asked today Sheriff Burch stated that he had not been notified of the lynching and was without any information concerning it.

Lynchings—1922
Cases of

Tennessee

1150

Tennessee Jail Stormed; Sheriff Overpowered; Father, Son, Hanged

Chicago Defender - Chicago, Ill. 10/28/22

Camden, Tenn., Oct. 27.—America's dread Frankenstein, the lynch evil, reared and turned upon its creators, white Southerners, when a mob of 50 white men, with blackened faces, broke into the jail here, overpowered the sleepy sheriff, and captured two white prisoners, Ed and George Hartley, father and son. The two men were taken, stood up against a persimmon tree 200 feet distant, and their bodies riddled with bullets.

Ed Hartley, father, and his son, George, were being held in jail for the death last February of Connie Hartley, son of John Hartley, brother of Ed. A family feud that has existed for a score of years was responsible for a fight in the woods when opposing factions of the family met in the woods, where the murder occurred.

The two men lynched had been tried twice for the crime. On the last occasion they were convicted and sentenced from 2 to 10 years in the penitentiary. They appealed. At the time of the mob outrage they were awaiting their release on bond.

Bodies Riddled with Shot

Probably 100 shots were fired into the bodies of the two prisoners, the mob using shotguns, rifles and pistols. The men were riddled almost beyond recognition by the broadside of lead, nails and slugs.

Father and son fought desperately when a dozen members of the lynching crowd unlocked their cell door and attempted to seize them. They fought all over the jail interior and their clothing was in shreds. Ed Hartley's left eye was punched out before he succumbed to capture. The fate of his son was similar.

E. G. Flowers, sheriff of Benton county, who acts as jailer, had been overpowered by the mob. The midnight raiders, with faces blackened like minstrel performers, appeared as if by signal in front of the jail residence at 12:30 in the morning.

Take Sheriff's Keys

The sheriff was called to the door and the instant he looked out a dozen guns and pistols were leveled at his face. A tall member of the party reached out with a long arm and grabbed the sheriff by the collar.

"I'm helpless, boys, you don't want to kill me, do you" pleaded the scared sheriff.

"We want the Hartleys, sheriff, and we want 'em quick," retorted the man with the long arm. "Boys, get his keys," he added. In the twinkling of an eye the mob was in possession of the jail keys and was at the main entrance of the celled apartment.

Tennessee has been one of the leading states to fight the Dyer anti-lynching bill. While congress plays with this bill, the lynch evil in America grows worse, with white men the victims—in this case relatives lynching their kin. The coroner's jury returned a verdict holding that the men came to their deaths at the hands of parties unknown.

TWO PRISONERS SEIZED, SLAIN BY MOB

Sheriff Is Overpowered And Sees Sentenced Slayers Shot To Death.

The Atlanta Georgian 10/22

(By International News Service.)

CAMDEN, Tenn., Oct. 20.—Camden is quiet Friday, following the slaying at midnight Thursday of George Hartley and Ed Hartley by a mob which forcibly removed them from the jail. Atlanta, Ga.

The two Hartleys were recently convicted of voluntary manslaughter in connection with the killing of Connie Hartley, a relative. They were given indeterminate sentences of from two to ten years. A former trial had resulted in a mistrial.

Sheriff L. G. Flowers stated Friday that just after midnight some one knocked at the door and said: "Lije, I want to see you." He opened the door, was overpowered by a mob of 50 masked men, who secured his keys and took the two men from their cells.

They were taken about 100 yards from the prison and shot to death. The mob then dispersed, and it was stated Friday by authorities that the identity of the men is unknown.

Three other prisoners in the Camden jail were undisturbed.

FATHER AND SON LYNCHED.

New York Times 10/21/22

Tennessee Mob Shoots Men Convicted of Manslaughter.

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Oct. 20.—Two men, father and son, recently convicted of manslaughter in Benton County last February, were taken from the county jail at Camden early this morning and shot to death in a vacant lot 200 yards from the jail.

The prisoners, Ed Hartley and his son George, were held in connection with the murder of Connie Hartley, nephew of Ed Hartley.

Between twenty-five and fifty men with faces blacked, appeared at the jail, and overpowering Sheriff Flowers, took the Hartleys and marched them to the vacant lot, where they riddled them with bullets.

At the time of the killing of Connie Hartley last February his father, John Hartley, was seriously wounded. Ed and George Hartley were convicted of voluntary manslaughter on Sept. 22 and made a motion for a new trial.

This was the first case in Benton County's history of prisoners being taken from authorities and shot.

Lynchings - 1922

Texas.

1157

Cases of.

MERRY CARNIVAL AS TEXAS TOWN LYNCHES SUSPECT

Chicago Defender

Two Thousand Crowd Woods to See George Gay's Body Riddled

12/23/22

[CRUSADER SERVICE]

Streetman, Tex., Dec. 22.—Coincident with the demand of the American ambassador at Lausanne conference for the protection of the minorities in far away Turkey, a bourgeois mob of the "best people," in fact, practically the entire business population of this town, closed shops for the day and created a holiday for the purpose of enjoying the torture of George Gay, 25, accused in connection with an alleged attack on a white woman.

Gay, who was arrested early in the day on the theory that he might know something of the alleged attack, was taken from the custody of the sheriff and a host of assistants by a large party of Streetman business men who had closed their stores so they could give full attention to the matter. Approximately 250 automobiles were in line when the sheriff's party removed Gay from the building where he had been kept under guard.

Catch Sheriff's Party

At a point where the highway crossed a creek the sheriff's party was overtaken by the automobile cavalcade. A polite request was made that the prisoner be turned over to them, and acquiescence made on the part of the sheriff's armed party that was quite as polite.

The officers were voluntary witnesses while this member of the oppressed American minority was chained to a tree and his body riddled with bullets. Over 2,000 barbarians witnessed the crime.

The evidence against Gay was declared by officers to be purely circumstial, the young woman having failed to identify him as her assailant.

World Comments

Inured as the country is to stories of awful crimes committed against the Race in the barbarous South, a slight flurry of protest was created in most Northern communities by the Associated Press story of the lynching by a Streetman mob of business men with the plain collusion of the local authorities. The New York World is one of the comparatively few white papers to comment upon the crime. In an editorial the World says:

"In the case of the shocking crime committed by the mob at Streetman the local and county authorities had every reason to expect a lynching. They knew what was in the air the moment the wild hunt for a Negro suspected of crime started. They should have known exactly what was coming when a Negro was captured. The mob was bent on murder. It did not want evidence. It made no difference that the prisoner was never identified by anybody as the man accused of attacking a white woman. The sheriff and his party offered no resistance, and the Negro prisoner, innocent so far as all evidence goes, was seized and killed by the lynchers in the presence of 1,000 persons.

"It is the usual story in such circumstances of the utter breakdown of the law, for which the sheriff and other officers and the entire community were responsible. After this third outbreak in Freestone county, close on the heels of two others, what has Texas to say for itself?"

Lynchings — 1922 Texas

Cases of

1158

Three Negroes Die On Lynchers' Pyre In Heart of Town

5/7/22

Atlanta Constitution

Kirvin, Texas, May 6.—(By the Associated Press.)—Three negroes were burned to death at the same stake here at 5 o'clock this morning by a mob of 500 men following their alleged implication in the criminal assault and murder of a 17-year-old white girl whose mutilated body was found near here Thursday night.

"Snap" Curry, the first negro burned, was taken from the custody of Freestone county officers early last night as he was benig conveyed from Wortham to some point west. It is alleged that he confessed to the mob that he had assaulted and murdered the girl and that in his confession he implicated the two other negroes, J. H. Varney and Mose Jones.

The mob divested the sheriff of his keys to the Freestone county jail where Jones and Varney were being held as suspects. Hurrying to the jail, the mob unlocked the doors and took the two negroes in charge. All three negroes were then rushed to Kirvin, the home of the dead girl, and an iron stake driven into the ground on a small square in the heart of the town. Wood was accumulated and saturated with oil.

Protest Innocence.

Curry was burned first. Then Varney and Jones. There was some delay in burning the last two inasmuch as they steadfastly protested their innocence. Third degree methods failed to bring a confession from them and they were finally cremated on the strength of Curry's testimony. After the third negro had been burned to a crisp all three bodies were piled together and a mass of fuel and oil flung over them. This was ignited, the flames soaring 25 or 30 feet in the air. Early today the flames were still burning fiercely.

The mob rapidly dispersed, and as day dawned there was only a few persons remaining to witness the aftermath of the triple cremation.

In Front of Churches.

All three negroes were employed on the farm of J. T. King, prominent farmer of the community.

Mr. King was present at the cremation, and the mob leaders are said to have obtained his approval before lighting the torches.

The lynchings were carried out deliberately. With the exception of the screams of the condemned men there was little to disturb the early morning quiet of the backwoods community. The plot where the burning took place is in front of two churches. One of the negroes is said to have died singing a church anthem.

The girl was riding her horse home from school, several miles from Kirvin, late Thursday when she was attacked. Her body later was found near the road with twenty-three knife wounds in the head, neck and chest.

Two White Men Held in Case.

Teague, Texas, May 6.—Two white men were detained today for further investigation of their actions preceding the attack on and murder of the 17-year-old girl for which three negroes were burned at Kirvin this morning. No charges were filed against them, according to reports here.

MOB BREAKS JAIL, DRAGS NEGRO OUT AND BURNS HIM

Houston Tex. Post

Was Dragged at End of Rope Through Texarkana

5/20/22

Associated Press Report.

TEXARKANA, Texas, May 19.—Members of a mob here Friday night, battered down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller county jail, Arkansas, a negro, Hullen Owens, who late Friday shot and fatally wounded R. C. Choate, Arkansas side, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body at the corner of Front and Vine streets, in the downtown section of the city.

Thousands of persons surrounded the jail during the attack of the mob but only a comparatively small number actually participated in the lynching. H. M. Barney, judge of the Arkansas municipal court made an ineffectual plea to the mob to let the law take its course.

The negro was dragged eight blocks, death resulting from strangulation. Twice the mob attempted to hoist the body to telephone poles, but each time the mob cried "let's burn him," and the body was lowered.

Owens had been arrested Thursday night charged with theft of automobile accessories and at the time of the shooting this afternoon was being taken to a place where he said he had hidden some of the stolen articles.

Taking the officers into an alley he reached in a trash barrel saying he would produce a battery, but instead of the battery he pulled a weapon from the barrel, turned on Chief of Police Lummus and ordered the officers to stand back. Chief Lummus pulled his gun and shot Owens in the mouth, Owens returning the fire but missing. Owens, then fled three blocks and commandeered an automobile. Officer Choate was shot by Owens while attempting to prevent the negro from getting away with the car.

Owens had been transferred from the hospital where his wound was treated to the county jail only a short time before the mob stormed the jail.

NEGRO DRAGGED TILL DEAD; BODY BURNED

Memphis Press,

Had Shot and Fatally Wounded Texarkana Policeman.

Commercial Appeal

TEXARKANA, Tex., May 19.—Members of a mob here tonight battered down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller County jail, Arkansas, a negro, Hullen Owens, who late today shot and fatally wunded R. C. Choate, Arkansas side policeman, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body at the corner of Front and Vine streets in the downtown section of the city.

Choate died on an operating table in a local hospital soon after the shooting, late today. Owens, who was shot in the mouth by Choate as the latter fell, managed to escape to the woods in a stolen automobile. He abandoned the car about a mile from town and attempted to drown himself in a pool, evidently fearing capture by officers in pursuit, according to John Strange, sheriff of Miller County, Ark., yho dragged him from the pool and brought him back here. A mob soon gathered.

SIX SHOTS TAKE EFFECT.

Slain Officer Was Favorite With the Public.

TEXARKANA, Texas, May 19.—R. C. (Dick) Choate, one of the best known officers for the last 10 years on the Arkansas side of town, was shot and fatally wounded this afternoon by Huley Owens, a negro chauffeur. Six shots entered the officer's abdomen. He died 30 minutes later on the operating table at a hospital.

Owen was in jail, charged with stealing automobile casings and other appliances. This afternoon he told the officers if they would take him out he would show them where a stolen battery was concealed. Chief Lummus and Patrolman Choate went with him. When several blocks from the jail Owen suddenly drew a .45 calibre pistol and opened fire on Choate at close range.

As the officer was falling he shot the negro in the mouth, but the wound was not serious. Owen then jumped into a high powered automobile and made his escape, Chief Lummus firing several shots after him as he fled. He was captured by Sheriff John Strange 10 miles north of town and brought back and placed in jail.

The dead officer was a great favorite with the public, one of the best peace officers the city has ever had, and his tragic death has caused a profound shock and deep grief to the entire city. He is survived by his wife and 12-year-old daughter.

20 TEXANS INDICTED FOR MEXICAN'S DEATH

Killing at Brownsville Charged to Secret Mob.

3/1/22

Commercial Appeal

BROWNSVILLE, Texas, Feb. 28.—Blanket indictments, charging murder and conspiracy to murder in connection with the shooting of Manuel Duarte, Mexican citizen, Feb. 2, was returned by the grand jury against 20 Cameron County residents. Their names are withheld pending arrests.

Mr. Duarte was foreman of a ranch near here, and according to witnesses had been warned to leave.

Four men called at the farmhouse at night and shot him. Officers charge the killing was planned at a secret meeting of about 25 men.

NEGRO BOY IS LYNCHED FOR ATTACK ON A GIRL

Burning at Conroe, Texas, Makes Seventh Lynching in South in Month of May.

New York Times

HOUSTON, Texas, May 20.—Joe Winters, a 19-year-old negro, identified as the assailant of a white girl near Oeonidas, Montgomery County, yesterday was burned to death in the court house square at Conroe this afternoon.

5/21/22

The killing of Winters is the seventh lynching reported from the Southern States in the month of May. Six of the seven have been in Texas. Attacks on white girls have provoked all the outbreaks, four of which resulted from the murder of one girl. A fifth also was due to the killing of a white woman, while the two others followed attacks on white women which did not result in their deaths.

Three negroes were burned at the same stake in Kirvin, Texas, on May 6 after Eula Awsley, 17 years old, had been attacked and slain. One of the three confessed. The dead girl's grandfather watched the mob of 500 make its preparations and gave his consent before the fire was lighted. Two days later the brother of one of the three who had been lynched was found hanging to a tree near Kirvin. It was said that he had made statements implicating himself in the attack on Miss Awsley.

Charles Atkins, a negro boy of 15, one of four arrested at Davisboro, Ga., on May 18 in connection with the killing of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, 20 years old, was another mob victim. Atkins was tortured over a slow fire for fifteen minutes, then questioned about the crime. It was said he confessed, exonerating his brother, who had also been accused, but involving another negro. A mob of 2,000 then chained him to a tree, lighted a fire around it and fired 200 shots into his body.

Grimes County (Texas) farmers found swinging to a tree near Plantersville on May 18 the body of a young negro named Early, who had been jailed when the screams of a white girl attracted the police. It was said Early was trying to attack the girl. He broke jail, but was caught and lynched by a party of searchers.

Three Negroes Burned For Murder of Girl

FORT WORTH, Tex., May 6.—Three negroes, one of whom confessed, implicating the other two, were burned to death by a mob at daylight Saturday morning at the town of Kirvin, where 17-year-old Eula Ansley was murdered Thursday. The burning took place on a vacant lot in the business district and was witnessed by a crowd of men, women and children.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE

MAY 21, 1922

2 NEGROES LYNCHED FOR ATTACKING WHITE GIRLS

Houston, Tex., May 20—Joe Winters, 19-year-old negro, identified as the assailant of a white girl near Leonidas, Montgomery County, yesterday, was burned to death in the Courthouse Square at Conroe this afternoon.

Columbus, Tex., May 20—Mose Bozier, 60-year-old negro, was hanged to a tree today by a mob of 300 persons near Alleyton, after he had been taken from officers who were holding him on a charge of attack on a young white girl yesterday.

N. F. C. TRIBUNE

MAY 20, 1922

Mob Drags Negro by Rope Until Dead; Burns Body

Batters Down Jail Door to Get Prisoner Who Mortally Wounded Arkansan

TEXARKANA, Texas, May 19.—Members of a mob here to-night, battering down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller County jail, Arkansas, a negro, Hullen Owens, who late to-day shot and mortally wounded R. C. Choate, on the Arkansas side of the boundary, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the downtown section.

Thousands of persons surrounded the jail during the attack, but only a compartively small number actually participated in the lynching. Judge H. M. Barney made an ineffectual plea that the law be permitted to take its course.

The negro was dragged eight blocks, death resulting from strangulation. Twice the mob attempted to hoist the body to telephone poles, but each time the mob cried: "Let's burn him," and the body was lowered.

BROOKLYN N Y TIMES

MAY 27. 1922

10 MAY LYNCHINGS RECORD FOR TEXAS

Waco, Texas, May 27.—The total of May lynchings in Texas mounted to ten when Jesse Thomas, negro, was shot to death and the body burned here.

State rangers called to protect the negro, held in connection with the killing of J. Carrol Bolton and the assault on Mrs. Maggie Hays, arrived a few hours too late last night to prevent the action of the mob.

"Just say that Sam Harris killed that negro," was the comment of the father of the girl, as he shot him to death outside the door of his home.

Waco is the home of Gov. Neff, who only a few days ago condemned mob law.

Thomas was captured and dragged into the parlor of the Harris home last night.

"Is that the man, daughter?" Sam Harris, the woman's father, asked.

"That's the man, papa," was the reply.

Harris drew an automatic pistol which had been concealed in his shirt front and opened fire.

As the negro fled from the room, Harris pumped bullets after him. The negro dropped dead as he gained the yard.

Harris dragged the body into the street from where it was conveyed to an undertaking establishment.

The mob later seized and burned it.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
MAY 6, 1922

BURN 3 NEGRO SLAYERS OF GIRL AT SAME STAKE

Prisoners Taken From Sheriff and Lynched in Centre of the Town.

SUSPECT CONFESSES AND IMPLICATES OTHER TWO

Bodies Saturated With Oil—Victim's Grandfather Watches Cremation.

(By the Associated Press.)

KIRVIN, Texas, May 6.—Three Negroes were burned to death at the same stake here to-day by a mob of 500 men, following their alleged implication in the criminal assault and murder of seventeen-year-old Eula Awsley, white girl, whose mutilated body was found near here Thursday night.

Snap Curry, the first Negro burned, was taken from the custody of Freestone County officers early last night as he was being conveyed from Wortham to some point west. It is alleged that he confessed to the mob that he had assaulted and murdered the girl and that in his confession he implicated the two other Negroes, J. H. Varney and Mose Jones.

Saturated With Oil.

The mob divested the sheriff of his keys to the Freestone County Jail, where Jones and Varney were being held as suspects. Hurrying to the jail, the mob unlocked the doors and took the two Negroes in charge. All three Negroes were then rushed to Kirvin, the home of the dead girl, and an iron stake was driven into the ground on a small square in the heart of the town. Wood was accumulated and saturated with oil.

Curry was burned first. Then Varney and Jones. There was some delay in burning the last two inasmuch as they steadfastly maintained their innocence. Third-degree methods failed to bring a confession from them and they were finally cremated on the strength of Curry's testimony. After the third Negro had been burned to a crisp, all three bodies were piled together and a mass of fuel and oil flung over them. This was ignited, the flames soaring twenty-five or thirty feet in the air. Early to-day the flames were still burning fiercely.

Mob Disperses.

The mob rapidly dispersed and as day dawned there were only a few persons remaining to witness the aftermath of the triple cremation.

All three Negroes were employed on the farm of J. T. King, prominent farmer of this community, and grandfather of the dead girl, with whom she lived, both her parents being dead. Mr. King was present at the cremation and the mob leaders are said to have obtained his approval before lighting the torches.

The lynchings were carried out in orderly fashion, there was no discharge of firearms nor was any undue violence attempted, although it is understood the bodies of the Negroes were mutilated before being tied to the stake. With the exception of a few shouts and the screams of the condemned men there was little to disturb the early morning quiet of the backwoods community. The plot where the burning took place is in front of two churches. One of the Negroes is said to have died singing a church anthem.

Twenty-three Knife Wounds.

Kirvin, a town of about 500 inhabitants, is situated in Freestone County, east central Texas, about eighty miles south of Dallas.

Miss Awsley was riding her horse home from school, several miles from Kirvin, late Thursday, when she was attacked. Her body was later found near the road with twenty-three knife wounds in the head, neck, and chest. News of the murder spread quickly and late Thursday a band of several hundred men from Freestone and Limestone Counties and a large sheriff's posse were scouring the neighborhood. Curry was arrested when his wife told officers he had come home with his clothes covered with blood on the night of the murder. Curry was taken to Wortham and imprisoned in a bank for safekeeping.

A mob gathered about the bank last night and threatened to storm the building, whereupon officers spirited the prisoner through a rear window and started with him in an automobile toward Mexia, apparently en route to Waco. Resistance seemed useless, and the prisoner was surrendered.

First Triple Lynching.

Jones and Varney had previously been arrested on suspicion and placed in the county jail at Fairfield.

This is the first triple lynching in Texas within the recollection of the present-day residents. Freestone County gained prominence in newspaper headlines several months ago in connection with wholesale liquor raids in the eastern part of the county by federal officers, state rangers, and members of the militia. Previous to that time several notorious road houses operated within its borders this being one of the causes for martial law being declared in one justice precinct in January.

N. Y. C. MAIL
MAY 20, 1922

LYNCHERS IN TEXAS BURN BODY OF NEGRO

Victim Had Shot Man Interfering with Auto Theft.

Texarkana, Tex., Today.—Members of a mob last night, battering down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller county jail, Arkansas, a negro, Hullen Owens, who had shot and fatally wounded R. C. Choate on the Arkansas side of the State line, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the downtown section.

Choate died on an operating table in a hospital soon after the shooting. Owens, who was wounded by I. J. Lummus, chief of police, managed to escape to the woods in a stolen automobile. He abandoned the car about a mile from town and attempted to drown himself in a pool, according to Sheriff John Strange, who dragged him from the pool and brought him back here. The mob soon gathered.

IGNORE JUDGE'S PLEA

Thousands of persons surrounded the jail during the attack, but only a comparatively small number actually participated in the lynching. Judge H. M. Barney made an ineffectual plea that the law be permitted to take its course.

The negro was dragged eight blocks, death resulting from strangulation. Twice the mob attempted to hoist the body to telephone poles, but each time the mob cried: "Let's burn him," and the body was lowered.

Owens was arrested on Thursday night, charged with theft of automobile accessories, and at the time of the shooting was being taken to a place where he said he had hidden some of the articles.

Taking the officers into an alley, he reached a trash barrel, saying he would produce a battery, but instead he pulled out a weapon, turned on Chief of Police Lummus and ordered the officers to stand back.

TRIED TO PREVENT THEFT

Chief Lummus shot Owens in the mouth, Owens returning the fire but missing. Owens then fled three blocks and stole an automobile. Choate was shot by Owens while he was attempting to prevent the negro from getting away with the car.

Owens had been transferred from the hospital where his wound was treated to the county jail only a short time before the mob stormed the jail.

All three Negroes were employed on the farm of J. T. King, prominent farmer of this community and grandfather of the dead girl, with whom she lived. Mr. King was present at the cremation and the mob leaders are said to have obtained his approval before lighting the torches.

The lynchings were carried out deliberately. There was no discharge of firearms. The bodies of the Negroes were mutilated, however, before being tied to the stake. With the exception of a few shouts and the screams of the condemned men, there was little to disturb the early morning quiet of the backwoods community. The plot where the burning took place is in front of two churches. The first Negro sang "Lord, I'm Coming," as the flames enveloped him. He kept up his chant as long as he was able.

Miss Awsley was riding her horse

3 TEXAS NEGROES CREMATED ALIVE BY 500 AVENGERS

N Y C WORLD
MAY 7, 1922

Trio Accused of Mistreating and Slaying White Girl Lynched Publicly in Town Square.

KIRVIN, Texas, May 6 (Associated Press).—Three negroes were burned to death at the same stake here at 5 o'clock this morning by a mob of 500 men, following their alleged implication in the attack and murder of seventeen-year-old Eula Awsley, white girl, whose multilated body was found near here Thursday night.

"Snap" Curry, the first Negro burned, was taken from the custody of Freestone County officers early last night as he was being conveyed from Wortham to some point west. It is alleged that he confessed to the mob that he had attacked and murdered the girl and that in his confession he implicated the two other Negroes, J. H. Varney and Mose Jones.

The mob divested the Sheriff of his keys to the Freestone County Jail, where Jones and Varney were being held, and took the two Negroes in charge. All three Negroes were then rushed to Kirvin, the home of the dead girl, where they were burned at an iron stake.

N. Y. C. POST
MAY 8, 1922

Mob Victim's Brother Dead

Body Found Hanging to Tree Near Scene of Texas Burning

FT. WORTH, Tex., May 8.—The body of Tom Cornish, brother of John Cornish, one of the three negroes burned at the stake by a mob in Kirvin Saturday morning, was found hanging to a tree limb to-day by a farmer residing near Kirvin. The authorities at Teague were informed by telephone.

10 MAY LYNCHINGS RECORD FOR TEXAS

BROOKLYN N Y CITIZEN
MAY 28, 1922

WACO Texas, May 27.—The total of May lynchings in Texas mounted to ten when Jesse Thomas, negro, was shot to death and the body burned here.

State rangers called to protect the negro, held in connection with the killing of J. Carrol Bolton and the assault on Mrs. Maggie Hays, arrived a few hours too late last night to prevent the action of the mob.

"Just say that Sam Harris killed tha negro," was the comment of the fathe of the girl, as he shot him to death out side of teh door of his home.

Waco is the home of Governor Nef who only a few days ago condemne mob law.

Thomas was captured and dragge into the parlor of the Harris home la night.

"Is that the man, daughter?" Sa Harris, the woman's father, asked.

"That's the man, papa," was t reply.

Harris drew an automatic pis which had been concealed in his sh front and opened fire.

As the negro fled from the room H ris pumped bullets after him. T negro dropped dead as he gained yard.

Harris dragged the body into street, from where it was conveyed n undertaking establishment.

The mob later seized and burned

Lynchings—1922

Texas.

1888

Cases of

Four Are Flogged And One Lynched By Masked Mob

Texarkana, Texas, February 13.—Grand jury investigation is scheduled today into the lynching on Saturday night of P. Norman, a negro, which closed four days of activities of hooded men who have to their credit in addition to the lynching, floggings administered to four white men, two of the victims being told they were punished for bootlegging, one for wife beating, and the other for intimacy with another's wife.

Norman was shot to death on the outskirts of Texarkana by four men as he was being returned to this city by officers from Ashdown, Ark., where he was arrested. The charge against him was intimidating an officer and having drawn a rifle on a deputy sheriff and cursed another officer. Police believe, however, the mob mistook Norman as being the negro wanted for the murder of G. W. Landers, white, a rural grocer, who was shot to death Wednesday.

A masked mob seized an automobile containing a quantity of liquor near DeKalb Saturday night and then whipped the two men found in the car. The captives were turned over to a county officer by the men with instructions that they be locked in jail. The liquor was destroyed by DeKalb citizens.

On Wednesday and Thursday nights, Samuel Kelly and Lee Henderson were spirited to the outskirts of the city by masked men and flogged. Kelly was told the reason for his punishmnt was intimacy with another's wife and Henderson was told he was a wife beater. On both occasions the men were later marched blindfolded into the office of the Texarkana morning paper and instructed to tell the city editor why the punishment had been meted out.

NEGRO FOUND SLAIN.

Prisoner Taken From Deputy By Masked Men and Shot

TEXARKANA, Ark., Feb. 12.—N. P. Norman, negro, who was taken from Deputy Sheriff Will Jordan on the Texas side, near Spring Lake Park, north of town, by four masked men with drawn revolver, about 10 o'clock last night, was found three hours later dead on a different road five miles from town. There were bullet holes through the negro's head and one through his body.

Jordan was bringing the negro from Ashdown, 20 miles north, to the Texarkana jail on a misdemeanor charge when his automobile was halted by the masked men, who are reported only to have said, "We want the negro."

Norman is said to have cursed Deputy Sheriff Jordan and driven him at the point of a gun from a negro house near town when the officer called there on business Wednesday, Jordan being unarmed at the time. The negro was found and arrested at Ashdown Friday night.

No clew to the identity to the lynchers has been found.

Texans Lynch Man; Cau[illegible] Unknown; He Was Colo[illegible]

Texarkana, Tex., Feb. 12.—The body of N. P. Norman, colored, who was taken from the custody of Deputy Sheriff Will Jordan by a group of masked men near here last night, was found today about a mile from where he was seized. He had been shot three time in the head and once in the breast.

Texas Adds Another Lynching

Texarkana, Texas, Feb. 16.—N. P. Norman, charged with a trivial offense, was lynched by masked men Sunday night. Three shots three times through the head and once through the breast by masked men.

Find Body of Man Taken From Sheriff

TEXARKANA, Tex., Feb. 25.—The body of N. P. Norman, colored, who was taken from the custody of Deputy Sheriff Will Jordan by a mob of masked men near here last Saturday night, was found today. The deputy assured them that Norman was guiltless, but the mob would not heed him, saying "He was a black man anyway." It is believed Norman was confused with another Colored man who is said to have slain G. W. Landers, storekeeper at Eylau.

5TH MAN MISSING IN KIRVIN BURNING

KIRVIN, Tex., June 2.—An unnamed man, sought by a mob at the time three men were burned and a fourth hanged, was mysteriously missing from his home Saturday night. It is feared that he has gone the way of the other four. He was said to have blood on his clothes following the murder which resulted in the triple burning, and was hunted by a mob. The sheriff succeeded in hiding him in a place of safety until the trouble subsided.

SYRACUSE N Y JOURNAL
JUNE 7, 1922

The Lynching Passion.

Crime begets crime. Lynch law by whites incites blacks to employ the same damnable agency.

The recent murder of an estimable white girl by negroes near Kirvin, Tex., resulted a few days later in the burning alive of three negroes and the killing of a fourth. Yesterday the racial war burst in all fury.

How many whites headed by officers of the law are in the big armed mob surrounding a house in which a big gang of negroes are fortified, also armed with rifles and supplied with much ammunition, is not known.

There is little doubt, however, about the fate of the negroes, who are said to have been principals in or aiders and abettors of those who were responsible for the shooting of several whites in a posse organized to arrest one of their number.

There is only one result in such displays of outlawry in the South—and sometimes in the North, although the means differs.

These outbreaks are shocking, no matter where they take place. They reflect upon the majesty of the law. They keep fires of racial hatred alive. Each one tends to incite another.

Why cannot Americans provide some means whereby lynchings can be prevented?

N. Y. C. POST
JUNE 24, 1922

Texans Lynch Negro

HOUSTON, Tex., June 24.—Warren Lewis, eighteen-year-old negro, was hanged at New Dacus, Montgomery County, late yesterday after confessing to a mob of 300 persons that he had attacked a young white woman living near the city, according to word received here last night.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
JUNE 24, 1922

NEGRO ABOUT TO BE LYNCHED TELLS OTHERS TO BE GOOD

HOUSTON, Tex., June 24.—Warren Lewis, eighteen-year-old Negro, was hanged at New Dacus, Montgomery County, after confessing to a mob of 300 persons that he had attacked a young white woman living near the city, according to word received here.

Before hanging the Negro, the mob allowed him to make a speech to scores of Negroes who had collected. He advised them to "do the right thing." All is quiet to-night over the county.

TEXAS SETS NEW MARK FOR GA. TO EQUAL

State Banner Blotted By Nine Lynchings in Three Weeks

AUSTIN, Texas, June 2.—Since May 6, nine Negroes have been burned, shot or hanged by unmasked band of white men in Texas. A tenth was accused of the murder of R. C. Choate, a policeman of Texarkana, Ark., just across the State line. He was captured by a mob from the [illegible] States and, after his body had been riddled with bullets, it was publicly burned.

Although there is no evidence that the Ku Klux Klan had any part in the recent lynchings there has been a marked revision of the rules governing the operations of the Klan and whipping of offenders no longer is sanctioned.

In Dallas an anti-Ku Klux organization was formed recently with M. M. Crane, former Attorney-General of the State, as chairman.

This outbreak of lynchings had its beginning on the night of May 6, when three men were burned to death in the town of Kirvin in connection with the slaying of a 17 year old school girl. At intervals of every few days there have been mob uprisings in other communities with a resultant Negro victim.

The latest of the manifestations of lawlessness occurred on the night of May 26, when Jesse Thomas, a twenty-three-year-old Negro of Waco, was taken in charge by a mob and accused of murdering Harry Bolton and then attacking Mrs. Margaret Hays, who was riding with Bolton in an automobile near Waco.

Thomas was confronted by the young woman in the presence of the mob, and she identified him as the man who attacked her. Then Sam Harris, her father, shot and killed Thomas.

Thomas body was taken to an undertaker's establishment, but the mob recovered and burned it upon the

(Continued on Page 5)

12 Lynchings In May Is Record

Waco, Texas, June 1.—With the killing and burning of Jesse Thomas, 23-year old colored lad, here last week on the charge of assault, the total number of lynchings in the Southern States was increased to twelve, a new record for the month of May.

Thomas was shot down in cold blood by the woman's father and then burned in the public square. The charred remains were hitched to an auto and driven through the colored section.

Harris will not be prosecuted. Texas troops were called out to guard other prisoners in the jail from violence.

Negro Assailant Slain by Father Of Girl Victim

Waco, Texas, May 29.—A 23-year-old Negro was killed here late today by the father of the victim of an attack Thursday night, when she identified the negro as her assailant. Seven shots were fired into the negro's body at the home of the girl's father.

The negro, according to a statement to the police by the young woman, shot and killed her companion, Harold Bolton, and then attacked her on a road near here late last night.

The negro, according to the young woman's statement, stopped the couple while they were riding in an automobile on the road, and shot Bolton. He then carried her to a secluded spot in the woods, according to her statement, keeping her there for three hours. The negro failed in an attempt to kill the young woman, his gun snapping three times, but failing to explode, and then he fled, she said.

The negro was apprehended on the public square this afternoon by E. L. McClure, a telegraph operator, who with his wife took him to the home of the girl. When the negro entered the room the girl screamed that it was he who attacked her.

The father then grabbed a pistol and began firing. A crowd stormed the undertaking parlor where the body was taken, dragged the corpse behind a truck through the streets and burned it on the public square.

RANGERS GO TO PRESERVE ORDER.

Austin, Tex., May 26.—A detachment of state rangers was ordered to entrain for Waco this afternoon in response to a request from County Attorney Frank Tirey, of McLennan county, who said he needed assistance in controlling the situation. The rangers carried two machine guns and other fire arms.

Suspect Killed; Waco Mob Burns Body.

Waco, Texas, June 1.—At the home of the young woman who was assaulted, after killing her escort, Jesse Thomas, who was identified by Mrs. Maggie Hays, 26 years old, as her assailant, paid the penalty with his life at 5:15 o'clock. He was shot and killed by Sam Harris, father of Mrs. Hays, who began firing as soon as his daughter exclaimed, "That's the man, papa."

Harris was armed with an automatic pistol, which he had in his shirt front. He started shooting while the Negro was in the room where he had been taken to see if Mrs. Hays could identify him. He then followed the Negro into the hall, shooting as the man ran into the yard. The Negro fell dead at the foot of the steps leading into the back gallery.

Then he was dragged into a side street, adjoining the Harris residence by Mr. Harris himself, when someone suggested that it be moved from the yard.

It was not more than forty-five minutes after the body had been moved from the scene of the killing by officers until a mob of several hundred persons ascertained it had

taken to a local undertaking establishment. They quickly secured the corpse, attached it to a truck, dragged it down Franklin street to the east side of the public plaza, behind the City Hall. Stripping the Negro of his clothes, the mob, after a fire had been kindled ,threw the body into the flames. The incineration was witnessed by a gathering of probably 5,000 persons, many of them women.

What remained of the body after the flames had burned it to a crisp was attached to the rear of an automobile, dragged down the street to the Harris home, then brought back up town and through the business section of Waco.

The only comment of Harris after he had killed the Negro was "just say Sam Harris killed that Negro."

From many parts of the city, as soon as it became known that the father of Mrs. Hays had killed the Negro, people came to the Harris home to tender their congratulations to Mr. Harris, with such remarks as "You've done a good day's work." "It was a fine job," and expressions of similar nature.

The killing of the Negro and the burning of his body followed a day of thrilling events, beginning early this morning, when the killing of W. Harrell Bolton and the attack on Mrs. Hays first became known, and, developing into angry demonstrations early this afternoon, when it was learned that a Negro who answered in some respects the description given by Mrs. Hays had been arrested by Contable Leslie Stegall. Considerable persuasion was required on the part of prominent officials and others to induce the mob to refrain from making an attack on the jail.

Jesse Thomas, who was killed was not the man arrested by Constable Stegall. It was learned by Chief of Police Lee Jenkins that the dead man was a service car driver, married, and living in South Waco.

E. L. McClure, a neighbor of Mr. Harris, who had been given as description of the Negro who shot and killed Bolton, had been deputized as an officer. It was while driving in a car on the plaza with his wife that he first saw the man whom he took to be the Negro. He bargained with the latter to cut some grass ;then told the Negro to get into the car and go with him to the place where the work was to be done. Mr. McClure secured three other men, the four of them taking the Negro to the Harris home, where he was killed.

A request was sent from Waco to the authorities at Austin calling for State Rangers to protect another Negro arrested earlier in the day, but who was not identified by Mrs. Hays.

Waco is the home of Governor Pat M. Neff, who issued a denunciation of "increasing tendency of mobocracy in Texas."

N Y C TIMES
JUNE 24, 1922

NEGRO IS LYNCHED IN TEXAS

He Confesses Attack on White Woman to Mob in New Dacus.

HOUSTON, Texas, June 23.—Warren Lewis, 18-year-old negro, was hanged at New Dacus, Montgomery County, late today.

He confessed to a mob of 300 persons that he had attacked a young white woman living near the city, according to word received here tonight.

MAN, IMPLICATED IN GIRL MURDER, IS FOUND HANGED

Shadrick Green's Body Riddled With Bullets, Is Found in Tree Between Kirvin and Teague.

San Antonio Express 5/9/22

By Associated Press.

MEXIA, Tex., May 8.—The situation in Freestone County is precarious following the lynching of Shadrich Green, young negro, said to have been implicated in the murder of Eula King, 17-year-old white girl by the alleged confession of Snap Curry, one of three negroes burned at a stake for the crime Saturday morning, according to officials here.

Green's bullet-riddled body was found hanging to a tree between Teague and Kirvin, east of here early today. There was nothing to connect Green with the crime other than the alleged reference to him in Curry's confession. It is believed that the negro was first shot to death and his body then suspended from the trees as a warning to other negroes. Green was held by officers on suspicion last Friday but was released after being questioned.

Fears of an uprising among negroes of the county to avenge the death of the four members of their race, led Sheriff W. M. Mayo to send an urgent telegram to Governor Neff for the assistance of the State rangers. Governor Neff responded by ordering two detachments of rangers to leave Austin for Freestone County tonight but this order was cancelled late today when Sheriff Mayo sent another telegram stating that he considered he had the situation well enough in hand to forego the assistance of the rangers.

Officials tonight were uncertain just what their next step would be, announcing they would be guided altogether by developments. At Kirvin where the triple cremation occurred conditions today were reported as having returned to normal, there being little excitement manifest over the recovered negro uprising. Sheriff Mayo said tonight that reports had reached him that a mob was in pursuit of five negro men with the intention of lynching him in connection with the girl's murder. The report, however, was not verified.

The sheriff declared that if there is more trouble martial law was a possibility. He also asserted that an alleged plot had been discovered since the murder which had as its object attacking the girl killed, two other white women and the death of one of the men of her family. The alleged statements of Curry demanded careful investigation, the sheriff said.

The negro Green was employed on the farm to Bob King, uncle of the slain girl. The fifth negro mentioned in connection with the case was also an employe on the King farm, it is said.

BULLET-RIDDLED BODY FOUND.

Special Telegram to The Express.

TEAGUE, Tex., May 8.—The bullet riddled body of Shadrack Green, 23 years old, the fourth negro alleged to have been implicated in the assault and murder of Eula King, 17-year-old girl, near Kirvin, last Thursday, was found hanging to a tree in Caney Creek bottom early today. Green was said to have been connected with the crime in a statement of John Cornish, who, with two other negroes, was burned at Kirvin Saturday morning, following a county-wide manhunt.

Sheriff Mayo of Freestone County immediately after the negro's body was found, requested Governor Neff to dispatch State rangers to aid in controlling the situation. Later, however, he informed the Governor that the county was quiet and rangers were no longer needed.

Reports that an uprising was imminent was declared tonight to be unfounded.

Cornish had told captors, it was said, that he was with Green when the murder and assault were committed and were traveling in the general direction of the girl's body. Green corroborated this statement. Blood was found on Green's clothing, it was said.

Little excitement followed finding of Green's body.

Kirvin and Fairfield were reported quiet and no further trouble is expected.

Green lived on the farm of Bob King, uncle of Euia Ausley.

Relatives of Miss King tonight joined with Sheriff Mayo and Deputy H. J. Childs, in declaring that no further violence will be tolerated.

N. Y. C. TRIBUNE
SEPTEMBER 8, 1922

Texans Lynch Negro Slayer

BEAUMONT, Tex., Sept. 7.—O. J. Johnson, a negro, twice tried on a charge of murder, was taken from the jail at Newton to-day, strung to a tree limb and his body riddled with bullets.

TEXAS SETS NEW MARK FOR GEORGIA TO EQUAL

(Continued from Page 1)

public square in the presence of several thousand persons.

When the mob was dispersed it was declared the victim was not guilty. His relatives insist he was at home on the night of the crime. It is stated that Waco is inclined to accept the proof offered of Thomas' innocence.

HOUSTON TEX CHRONICLE
MAY 21, 1922

SEVEN NEGRO MEN LYNCHED IN TWO WEEKS

Twenty-Year-Old Negro Is Burned to Death at Conroe and Another Hanged Near Alleyton.

With the burning of one negro in Conroe and the hanging of another near Alleyton Saturday afternoon, seven negroes have been lynched in Texas during the last 14 days.

Only the invisible line which separates Texas from Arkansas keeps the number from being eight, for another negro was lynched at Texarkana, Ark., just across the line from Texas, on Friday.

The lynching wave got its start at the little town of Kirvin two weeks ago yesterday when Snap Curry, Mose Jones and John Cornish were burned for alleged attack on a white school girl. The following day Shed Green was hanged at Kirvin for implication in the same offense.

Ten days later, on May 17, Tenn Early was hanged by a mob at Plantersville after having been accused of criminal assault. This was followed by the burning of Joe Winters at Conroe Saturday afternoon after identification by the victim as the negro who had attacked a young white girl, and the hanging of Mose Bozier near Alleyton after accusation of a similar offense.

Last Friday Hulan Owens, a negro, was riddled with bullets and his body burned after he had shot and killed a policeman in Texarkana Ark.

Burning at Conroe.

Conroe, Texas, May 20.—This little town was quiet tonight after having been the scene of the burning of Joe Winters, 20-year-old negro, at 5 o'clock this afternoon a corner of the court house square. Early in the evening the charred body had not ben removed from the smouldering ashes of the pyre.

Winters was captured by the mob at 2 o'clock this afternoon after having been chased since dawn. He was taken to Leonidas, where a 14-year-old white girl identified him as assailant. By this time a mob of several hundred people had been formed and the negro was taken to the public square in Conroe. There a pile of boxes and brush was gathered and saturated with gasoline, the negro tied to a stake and the mass ignited.

It is estimated that 7000 people were in the town and the crowd was densely packed around the negro while he was burning. The crowd included many women.

Rudolph Manning, a young negro who was taken into custody yesterday afternoon and who was kept in the Houston jail last night, was released after the burning of Winters. The victim of the attack said that Manning had not had anything to do with it.

Hanging at Columbus.

Columbus, Texas, May 20.—Mose Bozier, a 60-year-old negro, was lynched today by a mob of about 300 persons near Alleyton.

The negro was arrested at about 8 o'clock this morning by Ewald Stein, near Fretzburg, on a charge of having assaulted a 12-year-old white girl of the Brushy community. He was being taken to jail when the mob seized him.

The assault on the white girl took place Friday afternoon at a point about 12 miles northwest of Columbus.

The negro was hanged to a live oak tree about five miles from the scene of the crime.

N. Y. C. SUN
SEPTEMBER 7, 1922

Mob in Texas Lynches Negro Doomed to Die

ORANGE, Texas, Sept. 7.—O. J. Johnson, a negro under sentence of death, was taken from the county jail at Newton by a mob of 100 men early to-day and hanged. His body was riddled with bullets.

Klu Klux Lynchings — 1922 Texas

1159

Cases of

Fourth Negro Dies At Lynchers' Hands For Texas Horror

5/9/22 Atlanta Constitution

Fort Worth, Texas, May 8.—The body of a negro, Tom Cornish, brother of John Cornish, one of the victims of the Kirvin mob Saturday morning, was found hanging to a tree limb by a farmer residing near Kirvin. Officers at Teague were informed by telephone.

Advices from Teague said that Kirvin citizens believed from Tom Cornish's statement that he had something to do with the slaying of Eula Awsley, for which John Cornish and two other negroes were burned at the stake.

STATE RANGERS ORDERED TO SCENE.

Austin, Texas, May 8.—Governor Neff today ordered two detachments of state rangers to be sent immediately to Fairfield county, seat of Freestone county, to prevent any uprising of negroes, which Sheriff W. Mayo, of Freestone county, said was imminent. The sheriff, in a message, said the negroes of the county are threatening to avenge the death of three negroes who were burned at Kirvin Saturday morning.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
MAY 26, 1922

TEXAS MOB CHASES ANOTHER NEGRO

WACO, Tex., May 26.—A mob is in pursuit of a Negro who, according to a statement to the police by Miss Margaret Hayes, shot and killed her companion, Harold Bolton, and then attacked her on a road near here last night.

The Negro is said to have boarded a freight train bound for Fort Worth.

The Negro, according to Miss Hayes' statement, stopped the couple while they were riding in an automobile on the road, and shot Bolton. He then carried her to a secluded spot in the woods, according to her statement, keeping her there for three hours. The Negro failed in an attempt to kill Miss Hayes, his gun snapping three times but failing to explode, and then he fled, she said.

[Since May 6 eight Negroes have been lynched by mobs in Texas. In one instance the victim was burned at the stake. Another was beaten to death for stealing cattle.]

N Y C TIMES
MAY 7, 1922

MOB BURNS THREE NEGROES AT STAKE

Texans Take Swift Vengeance on Men Accused of Murdering White Girl.

ONE CONFESSES HIS GUILT

Grandfather of Their Victim Present and Gives His Consent Before Fire Is Lighted.

KIRVIN, Texas, May 6 (Associated Press).—Three negroes were burned to death at the same stake here at 5 o'clock this morning by a mob of 500 men, following their alleged implication in the assault and murder of 17-year-old Eula Awsley, a white girl, whose mutilated body was found near here Thursday night.

"Snap" Curry, the first negro burned, was taken from the custody of Freestone County officers early last night as he was being conveyed from Wortham to some point west. It is alleged that he confessed to the mob that he had assaulted and murdered the girl and that in his confession he implicated the two other negroes, J. H. Varney and Mose Jones.

The mob took from the Sheriff his keys to the Freestone County Jail, where Jones and Varney were being held as suspects. Hurrying to the jail, the mob unlocked the doors and took the two negroes in charge. All three prisoners were then rushed to Kirvin, the home of the dead girl, and an iron stake was driven into the ground on a small square in the heart of the town. Wood was piled up and saturated with oil.

Curry was burned first, then Varney and Jones. There was some delay in burning the last two, as they steadfastly maintained their innocence. Third degree methods failed to bring a confession from them, and they were finally cremated on the strength of Curry's testimony.

Bodies Burned Together.

After the third negro had been burned to a crisp, the three bodies were piled together and a mass of fuel and oil was flung over them. This was ignited, the flames soaring twenty-five or thirty feet into the air.

The mob rapidly dispersed, and as day dawned there were only a few persons remaining to witness the aftermath of the triple cremation.

When the fire finally died down this morning nothing but ashes remained of the three bodies.

Curry, the alleged confessed slayer of Miss Awsley, is understood to have told his captors that Jones, Varney and himself had planned the crime since January. The original plan was to assault two other women as well as Miss Awsley on the same day and in rapid succession, Curry was quoted as having said. He did not say why the plan had failed.

The three negroes were employed on the farm of J. T. King, a prominent farmer of this community, and grandfather of the dead girl, with whom she lived, both her parents being dead. Mr. King was present at the lynching and the mob leaders are said to have obtained his approval before lighting the torches.

Mob Acts Deliberately.

The lynching was carried out deliberately. There was no discharge of firearms. It is reported, however, that the negroes were mutilated before being tied to the stake. With the exception of a few shouts and the screams of the condemned men, there was little to disturb the early morning quiet of the backwoods community. The plot where the burning took place is in front of two churches. One of the negroes is said to have died singing a church anthem.

Kirvin, a town of about 500 inhabitants, is in Freestone County, East Central Texas, about 80 miles south of Dallas.

Miss Awsley was riding her horse home from school, several miles from Kirvin, late Thursday when she was attacked. Her body was found near the road with twenty-three knife wounds in the head, neck and chest.

News of the murder spread quickly and Thursday night a band of several hundred men from Freestone and Limestone Counties and a large sheriff's posse scoured the neighborhood. Curry was arrested when his wife told officers he had come home with his clothes covered with blood on the night of the murder. He was taken to Wortham and imprisoned in a bank for safekeeping.

A mob gathered about the bank last night and threatened to storm the building, and officers spirited the prisoner through a rear window and started with him in an automobile toward Mexia, apparently en route to Waco. The mob quickly surrounded the car and demanded the negro. Resistance seemed useless and the prisoner was surrendered.

TEAGUE, Texas, May 6.—Two white men were detained today for further investigation of their actions preceding the attack and murder of Eula Awsley for which three negroes were burned at Kirvin this morning. No charges were filed against the men, according to reports here.

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED FOR ATTACKS ON GIRLS

N Y C TIMES
MAY 21, 1922

One Is Burned in Texas and the Other Hanged in Ohio—Eight in Month of May.

HOUSTON, Texas, May 20.—Joe Winers, a 19-year-old negro, identified as the assailant of a white girl near Leonidas, Montgomery County, yesterday was burned to death in the Court House square at Conroe this afternoon.

COLUMBUS, Tex., May 20.—Mose Bozier, 60-year-old negro, was hanged to a tree today by a mob of 300 persons near Allentown, after he had been taken from police who were holding him on a charge of an attack on a young white girl yesterday.

The killing of Winters and Bozier makes eight lynchings reported from the Southern States in the month of May. Six of the seven have been in Texas. Attacks on white girls have provoked all the outbreaks, four of which resulted from the murder of one girl. A fifth also was due to the killing of a white woman, while the two others followed attacks on white women which did not result in their deaths.

Three negroes were burned at the same stake in Kirvin, Texas, on May 6, after Eula Awsley, 17 years old, had been attacked and slain. One of the three confessed. The dead girl's grandfather watched the mob of 500 make its preparations and gave his consent before the fire was lighted. Two days later the brother of one of the three who had been lynched was found hanging to a tree near Kirvin. It was said that he had made statements implicating himself in the attack on Miss Awsley.

Charles Atkins, a negro boy of 15, one of four arrested at Davisboro, Ga., on May 18 in connection with the killing of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens, 20 years old, was another mob victim. Atkins was tortured over a slow fire for fifteen minutes, then questioned about the crime. It was said he confessed, exonerating his brother, who had also been accused, but involving another negro.

Grimes County (Texas) farmers found swinging to a tree near Plantersville on May 18 the body of a young negro named Early, who had been jailed when the screams of a white girl attracted the police.

Mob Drags a Negro To Death in Street And Burns His Body

N Y C WORLD
MAY 20, 1922

Texas Judge Pleads in Vain for Life of Thief Who Had Shot White Man.

TEXARKANA, Tex., May 19.—A mob here to-night, battering down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller County Jail, Ark., a Negro, Hullen Owens, who late today shot and fatally wounded R. C. Choate, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the downtown section.

Thousands of persons surrounded the jail during the attack but only a comparatively small number actually participated in the lynching. Judge H. M. Barney made an ineffectual plea that the law be permitted to take its course.

The Negro was dragged eight blocks. Owens had been arrested last night charged with theft of automobile accessories and at the time of the shooting this afternoon was being taken to a place where he said he had hidden some of the articles.

Taking the officers into an alley he reached a trash barrel, saying he would produce a battery, but instead he pulled out a weapon. Chief Lummus shot Owens in the mouth, Owens returning the fire but missing. Owens then fled three blocks and shot Choate when the latter attempted to prevent the Negro from getting away with an automobile.

TEXAS STIRRED BY FOURTH LYNCHING FOR GIRL'S DEATH

Chicago Daily Tribune 5/9/22

Mexia, Tex., May 8.—The situation in Freestone county, growing out of the lynching of Shadrick Green, colored youth, said to have been implicated in the murder of Eula Awsley, 17 year old white girl, by the alleged confession of "Snap" Curry, one of three colored men burned for the crime, is critical, according to officials tonight.

Green's bullet riddled body was found hanging to a tree between Teague and Kirvin today. There was nothing to connect Green with the crime other than the alleged reference to him in Curry's confession. It is believed Green's body was suspended from the tree as a warning to colored men.

3 NEGROES DIE IN FLAMES AT HANDS OF MOB

N. Y. C. SUN
MAY 6, 1922

Were Accused of Assaulting and Murdering 17-Year-Old Schoolgirl.

JAIL IN TEXAS TOWN STORMED

Crowd of 400 Watches Tragedy in Public Square—Two Whites Held.

FAIRFIELD, Tex., May 6.—A mob stormed the county jail here just before dawn to-day, overpowered the guards and seized three negroes charged with assaulting and murdering a 17-year-old schoolgirl. The negroes were taken by automobile to Kirvin, thirteen miles from here, where one by one they were tied to the iron seat of a cultivator placed in the City Square, saturated with oil and burned to death.

Two white men are being held in the county jail in connection with the killing for which the three negroes were burned.

The schoolgirl, Eula Ausley, was found near Kirvin, her body mutilated by thirty stab wounds. Tracks leading from the scene of the murder to the home of the two white men—brothers—and fitting the shoes they wore caused suspicion to be directed at them.

One of the white men was in the county jail when the mob seized the negroes. He was captured yesterday. The second surrendered after the mob left here with the negroes.

More than 400 persons stood by in the small square while a few leaders led the negroes one by one to the fire, tied them to the cultivator seat and threw on more wood.

Dies Crying to Lord.

The negroes burned by the mob were "Snap" Terry, 26 years old; Moses Jones, 44, and John Cornish, 19. "Snap" was captured after a thirty-six hour chase with bloodhounds. He was the first to be burned. eH was tied to the seat of the cultivator after he had confessed, oil was poured on his body and a match struck. As the flames mounted about his body Terry shouted:

"O Lord, I'm coming."

Terry is alleged to have admitted participation in the crime, and after the flames had mounted about his body he cried to the mob to burn Jones and Cornish.

He left off his moaning and shrieks to shout:

"Burn Jones and Cornish—they are as guilty as I am." Then he resumed his chanting, "O Lord, I'm coming": repeating it over and over again. His cries rose higher and higher as the flames leaped up, but he died soon after a fresh supply of oil had been thrown on the fire.

Jones was then tied up and fastened to the plow seat. More wood was thrown on the fire. Cornish then was burned and soon after the mob dispersed, though the fire burned well into the morning. The capture of the three blacks followed one of the most spectacular mahunts in Texas history.

Man Hunt Began Yesterday.

With a clue from another negro that Terry was guilty a strong posse of farmers and business men began early yesterday morning to run down the slayers. Ravines and hills were beaten back and forth all day. At 5:30 o'clock yesterday afternoon the searchers came upon Terry, five and a half miles south of Wortham. He was taken first to Kirvin and placed in jail, but when news of the capture spread about and a mob formed the negro was spirited out of Kirvin nad placed in the county jail here.

Under questioning Terry, it is said, admitted participation in the crime and implicated Jones and Cornish. They were arrested and brought to Fairfield. No sooner had they been placed behind the bars than the mob, numbering more than 400 persons, stormed the jail.

A large part of the mob led the parade back to Kirvin. At least 100 automobiles were in line. The cavalcade arrived at Kirvin at about 4 A. M. and circled the square. A cultivator was dragged to the center of the square and by the time the negroes were taken out of an automobile a large pile of wood and a quantity of oil was in readiness.

Jones and Cornish did not confess to participation in the killing. All three negroes were mutilated by the mob before they were burned. Sheriff Mayo said that despite the death of the negroes the two white men were still under suspicion for the murder. He would not amplify his statement other than to say they were suspects.

Mob Dragged Negro From Hospital and Shot Him

N. Y. C. POST
MAY 20, 1922

Body Then Burned in Park of Texarkana, Tex.—Victim Had Killed Policeman.

TEXARKANA, Tex., May 20.—This city was quiet to-day following the lynching last night of Hullen Owens, a negro, by a mob that took him from the Miller County jail on the Arkansas side, where he had been confined following the fatal shooting of R. C. Choate, an Arkansas policeman.

Owens was arrested Thursday night on a charge of theft, and, in trying to escape after having been taken out of the jail by the officers, killed Choate, who attempted to prevent him. The negro, suffering from a gunshot wound in the face, inflicted by Chief of Police Lummus, fled and attempted to drown himself. He was rescued and taken to a hospital.

The threatening crowd that gathered about the hospital caused the removal of the negro to the jail. The doors of the jail were battered down after Sheriff Strange refused to give up the keys to the crowd that had followed him. Municipal Judge Barney was told "this is no time for pretty talk," when he appealed to the crowd to disperse.

Owens was dragged from his cot with a rope and taken to a park in the middle part of the city, where he was riddled with bullets. The body was then placed on a large quantity of kerosene-soaked blazing fuel.

BROOKLYN N Y TIMES
MAY 8, 1922

Fourth Negro Lynched; Texas Militia Called

Kirvin, Tex., May 8.—Another negro has been lynched on the road between Kirvin and Fairfield, near where three were burned Saturday, according to word received here today.

Militia Ordered Ready.

Austin, Tex., May 8.—Texas militia were ordered ready today as another negro uprising appeared certain. Capt. Frank Hamer, of Ranger Headquarters Company at Austin, will leave at once for Fairfield with one detachment of Rangers. The other detachment is to come from Port Worth, under command of Capt. Tom Hickman.

N. Y. C. SUN
MAY 20, 1922

FOURTH NEGRO LYNCHED IN SOUTHWEST IN MONTH

Shot and Burned After Killing Texas Man.

TEXARKANA, Ark., May 20.—Texarkana became quiet to-day after staging the sixth lynching in the Southwest this month.

Huley Owen, negro, who fatally shot R. C. Create, police officer, was dragged from the Miller county jail by a mob of 1,000 men and women late last night. The negro was riddled with bullets and his body burned.

The burning took place in an open space near the railway station, with the mob in a circle around the pyre.

DAVISBORO, Ga., May 20.—Scores of white men, on foot, in automobiles and on horseback, were searching to-day for John Henry Tarver, negro, "wanted" in connection with the murder of Mrs. Elizabeth Kitchens. The manhunters have been busy ever since Charley Atkins, negro, 15, named Tarver as an accomplice just before being burned at the stake. A negro was seized last night by a posse hunting Tarver, but was released when he proved he was not the man sought.

Fourth Negro Lynched In Texas Girl Murder

FAIRFIELD, Tex., May 8.—The body of Shadrack Green, negro about 23 years old, was found hanging to a tree early Monday on the east side of Caney Creek, near Fairfield.

The negro lived on the farm of Robert King, uncle of the girl murdered by three negroes last Thursday, who were burned by a mob early Saturday at Kirven.

It was reported he was implicated in the crime. There were several bullet wounds in his body.

BROOKLYN N Y TIMES
MAY 21, 1922

TWO NEGROES LYNCHED

Mobs in Texas Avenge Attacks on White Girls.

Houston, Texas, May. 20.—Two negroes were lynched in Texas today for alleged attacks on white girls.

Winters, 16, negro, was burned at the stake at Conroe, by a mob after he had been identified by a 10-year-old white girl as the man who attacked her.

Mose Bosler, 60, negro, was taken from authorities at Allotton, Texas, and hanged by a mob of 300.

N. Y. C. MAIL
MAY 19, 1922

Lynch Negro Follow[illegible] Attack on White Girl

Conroe, Tex., To-day.—The body of a young negro was found by Grimes county farmers swinging to a tree by the roadside near Plantersville yesterday. The negro, who was known by the name of Early, apparently had been lynched last night.

Early was taken by officers Monday night when screams of a young white girl, whom it was reported he was attempting to attack, aroused the neighborhood. He was placed in jail at Anderson, but escaped Tuesday night. Several searching parties and a sheriff's posse were formed. Some of the searchers apparently captured the negro last night and lynched him.

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
MAY 9, 1922

Fourth Lynching Sends Troops to Texas Town

AUSTIN, Texas, May 8.—The lynching to-day of a fourth negro accused of attacking and killing Miss Eula Ausley, seventeen-year-old schoolgirl, led to-day to the sending of troops to Freestone County.

The body of Shadrack Green, a negro, twenty-three, was found hanging to a tree to-day near Caney Creek, between Fairfield and Kirven.

SIXTY-YEAR-OLD NEGRO IS HANGED IN TEXAS

COLUMBIA, TEXAS, May 20.—Mose Bosler, sixty-year-old negro, was hanged to a tree today by a mob of 300 persons near Alleyton, after he had been taken from officers who were holding him on a charge of an attack on a young white girl yesterday.

N Y C CALL
MAY 29, 1922

Texas Authorities "Fear" Burned Negro Was Not Girl's Slayer

WACO, Tex., May 28.—Jesse Thomas Negro, who was burned at the stake by a mob here Friday, may not have been the man who murdered Harrel Belton and assaulted his girl companion, authorities feared yesterday, and five other Negroes will be held in jail until further investigation has been made.

Officers were trying to link the murder of Belton with two other unsolved crimes committed here late[illegible]

N Y C EVE WORLD
MAY 25, 1922

ANOTHER NEGRO LYNCHED.

Beaten to Death by Mob in Texas, Governor Told.

AUSTIN, Tex., May 25.—Information was received yesterday by Gov. Neff of the death of another Negro at the hands of a mob, making the ninth victim of mob violence in Texas since May 6.

Gilbert Wilson, who was charged with theft of cattle, was beaten to death by a mob of white men at Bryan Tuesday night.

N Y C TIMES
MAY 27, 1922

FATHER OF TEXAN GIRL KILLS NEGRO ASSAILANT

State Rangers Are Ordered to Waco With Machine Guns to Control the Situation.

WACO, Texas, May 26.—A 23-year-old negro was killed here late today by Sam Harris, the father of Mrs. Margaret Hayes, victim of an attack Thursday night, when she identified the negro as her assailant. Seven shots were fired into the negro at the home of the girl's father, and the head was then beaten in by clubs.

The negro was apprehended on the Public Square this afternoon by E. L. McClure, a telegraph operator, who, with his wife, took him to the home of the girl. When the negro entered the room the girl screamed that it was he who attacked her. The father then got a pistol and began firing.

A crowd stormed the undertaking parlor where the body was taken, dragged the corpse behind a truck through the streets and burned it on the Public Square.

AUSTIN, Texas, May 26.—A detachment of State Rangers was ordered to entrain for Waco this afternoon in response to a request from County Attorney Frank Tirey of McLennan County, who said he needed assistance in controlling the situation. The rangers carried two machine guns and other fire arms.

Lynchings - 1922. Texas.

Cases of.

1160

HOUSTON TEXAS CHRONICLE
JUNE 24, 1922

CROWD OF 300 HANGS NEGRO AT NEW DACUS

Community Quiet Following Lynching of Man Said to Have Admitted Attempted Assault on White Woman.

New Dacus, in Montgomery County, was quiet Saturday following the hanging of Warren Lewis, an 18-year-old negro, in front of the school Friday afternoon by a crowd of 300 persons.

The lynching took place following a reported confession of the negro in which he admitted attempting criminal assault on a young married white woman.

After he was taken by the crowd the negro stated that he wanted to make a speech to the negroes who had assembled. Permission was given and he told them that he was sorry for his act and advised them to obey the laws, it was reported.

The attempted assault took place Thursday morning, it was stated. According to accounts of the attack, the negro approached the house and asked for a drink. The woman gave it to him. He left but returned in about 15 minutes and asked for a match. It was refused and then he asked to be allowed to light his cigarette at the kitchen stove. The woman refused to allow him to enter and he attacked her. She fought with him and he was frightened away, it was stated.

A crowd formed and went to the negro's home where he was found at work. He was taken to New Dacus and hanged a short time later.

The body was cut down during the night and taken away.

YOUNG NEGRO LYNCHED BY BIG MOB IN TEXAS

Man Accused of Attacking Girl Is Taken From Sheriff, Tied to Tree and Shot Dead.

12/12/22

STREETMAN, Texas, Dec. 11.—George Gay, aged 25, a negro, arrested this morning in connection with an alleged attack on a young woman here, was shot and killed by a mob this afternoon. The body was left chained to the tree in a creek three miles south of Streetman. Feeling continued to run high in this community following the shooting.

Local and county officers held a conference shortly after noon in a bank building here and decided the only chance for the negro's safety lay in his removal to Fairfield. Approximately 250 automobiles were in the line when the Sheriff's party removed the negro from the building where he had been kept under guard.

At a point where the highway crossed a creek the Sheriff's party was overtaken and the negro was seized.

The officers were held under an armed guard while the negro was chained to the tree and his body riddled with bullets. Approximately 1,000 persons witnessed the lynching.

The evidence against Gay was declared by officers to be circumstantial, the young woman having failed to identify him as her assailant.

TEXAS LYNCHING OF MEXICAN UP TO UNCLE SAM

Chicago Daily News
Chicago, Ill. 11-16-22

Washington, D. C., Nov. 15.—[By the Associated Press.]—The Mexican embassy has made representations to the state department against the alleged lynching of a Mexican, Elias Villareal Zarate in Weslaco, Tex., last Saturday and asking guarantees for the Mexican consul in Hidalgo, Tex., whose life is said to have been threatened.

According to the embassy's advices, Villareal Zarate was put in jail after a fight with an American and then was taken out and lunched, the authorities afterwards refusing a request of the Mexican consul that an investigation be made.

In its representations the Mexican embassy is understood to charge complicity on the part of the authorities of Weslaco, pointing out that in the last few months several Mexicans have been killed in Texas with "responsibility of complicity of the authorities." Finally the embassy asks guarantees for the safety not only of the consular but of other Mexcians in Texas.

The embassy's communcation was taken under consideration by the state department.

YANKEES LYNCH POOR MEXICANS, CONSUL ASSERTS

Chicago Tribune
11-26-22

Washington Gets His Charges.

BY GRAFTON WILCOX.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 25.—[Special.]—Senor Don Enrique D. Ruiz, Mexican consul general, with headquarters in San Antonio, Tex., has issued a statement, forwarded here, in which representative Americans living in that state are urged to restrain the others from killing Mexican citizens indiscriminately in the future, as he alleges has been done in the past.

The statement is in strong language. The consul general in one place makes the charge, "there is no record of any jury having turned out a verdict of 'guilty' whenever a man has been tried for the murder of a Mexican citizen in Texas."

When Yankees Are Slain.

Referring to the murder of American citizens in Mexico, he calls attention to the fact that such offenses are committed almost invariably by outlaws or rebels against the federal authorities, not by so-called respectable citizens, as, he says, is the case in Texas.

At the same time, he contrasts the vigorous attitude of the Mexican government in such matters with what he calls the complaisant attitude of Texas authorities. In Mexico, Señor Ruiz states, the government, in many instances, has been able to run down the murderers. Such men always, he says, "have received due punishment when caught, paying with their lives for their crimes."

"For some time past," the statement says, "the consulate general of Mexico has been receiving notices from almost every consulate in the state of Texas, advising this office of crimes committed on Mexican citizens under the most outrageous circumstances. Most of these reports have come from Hidalgo county, the latest of the outrages being the lynching of Elias Villareal Zarate, at Weslaco, by a group of fifteen men.

"Defends Self, Lynched."

"The Mexican consul at Hidalgo reports that Zarate was taken by a mob and killed after he had been taken into custody by the local authorities at Weslaco. Consul Perez reports further that this man was arrested beccause he had struck another man while acting in self-defense, having been attacked by the latter, who tried to beat him over the head with a club. In order to determine on which of the two parties lay the blame for this encounter, why were they not both taken into custody at the same time?

"Not very long ago there was another case of lynching reported from Hidalgo county, in that case, too, the victim was a Mexican citizen. For some reason or other this case has not had much publicity. This man also was lynched after having been arrested for some small offense, and his body, like that of Zarate, was found later with several bullet holes through it. The local officials of the town claimed that they had no knowledge of the crime until their attention had been called to it by the man who discovered the body.

Calls Officials Lax.

"How could they disclaim knowledge of the affair since it was proved that the man was killed after he had been taken into custody by one of the police officials of the town?

"Due to the efforts of the Mexican consul at Hidalgo, this minor official was brought before the court and a charge filed against him. After he had given bond he was immediately turned free and is still upholding law and order in his community.

"It was only a short time ago that this consulate general received a report, also from Hidalgo county, of the killing of a 14 year old Mexican girl. She was shot as she ran out of her home, frightened by a raid that was being made on a neighboring house by a party of armed men, who alleged that they were searching for bootleggers, and mistook her for one of them.

"So far as this office has any knowledge of, there was not investigation made of the affair, to determine to what extent the parties concerned were guilty. If such an occurrence had taken place in Mexico, it might have been termed an application of the 'ley fuga,' which if I am not badly mistaken, never has been applied to a woman.

"There have been many other cases where Mexican citizens were murdered in Texas by citizens of the state. Many of these crimes have been committed under the most abhorrent circumstances, which have not been given publicity. But it is certain that if the people of Texas knew of the details of these crimes they would raise strong protests against them and would not allow them to go unpunished, as they are an insult to the principles of righteousness and the spirit of true democracy and 100 per cent Americanism, for which Texas always has stood.

"The government of Mexico has spent many thousand dollars in lawyers' fees alone, for the prosecution of the parties responsible for many of the crimes mentioned and notwithstanding that in many of these cases the most clear evidence has been brought forward to prove the absolute guilt of the parties accused, not in one single instance has the slightest punishment been applied.

Says Evidence Was Ignored.

"No matter how convincing the evidence might be, and no matter how horrible the circumstances under which the crimes were committed the perpetrators invariably have been set free by the local juries. There has been many instances in which American men and women have been eyewitnesses of such murders and have testified at the trials impartially, their testimony being in favor of the prosecution, but there is no record of any jury having turned out a verdict of 'guilty,' whenever a man has been tried for the murder of a Mexican citizen in Texas.

"The government as well as the people of the United States have been protesting continually in the past against murders of American citizens in Mexico. Notwithstanding that practically all of the murders have been committed during a period of turmoil, and by men who were outlaws in their own country, the Mexican government has been able in many instances, to run down the murderers, and these always have received due punishment when caught, paying with their lives for their crimes.

Not Defending Wrong Doers.

"I wish to have it plainly understood that the statements herein contained are in no wise to be taken as a defense of those Mexican citizens who transgress the federal and state laws of this country. This office fully realizes that when they do that, they are subject to the punishment specified by the same laws, and for these laws they should hold the highest respect.

"Notwithstanding the condition of affairs that has existed in Mexico for the last few years, it is a matter of record that last year the number of Mexicans murdered in the United States was much greater than the number of Americans murdered in Mexico.

"The great majority of Mexicans murdered have been killed in Texas and by people who are supposed to be law abiding citizens in their respective communities. In many of these instances the local officials either have had some responsibility in connection with these cases or actually have taken part in them.

Blames Lack of Penalty.

"In analyzing the basic cause for the great increase of outrages committed against the Mexican people of Texas I have come to the conclusion that in most instances they are not due to race prejudice, but primarily to the fact that all the perpetrators of these crimes always go unpunished. This, of course, encourages the bad element to continue their attacks on the Mexican people.

"There actually have been many instances where men have committed several murders of Mexican citizens and as they have been acquitted in every case, they feel that they can go on killing Mexicans as they feel like, resting assured that they never will be punished.

Charges Many More Outrages.

"It would require many columns in which to cite all of the individual cases of outrages and crimes committed in Texas on Mexican citizens. Only those cases have been mentioned herein which have recently been reported to this consulate general, in order to give an idea of the strong prejudice that seems to exist among a certain class of people against the Mexican workingman.

"As I am convinced that the feeling of the great majority of the people of Texas is very friendly to the Mexican people and realize that they constitute an important factor in the development of farms, the building of railroads, highways, etc., it is to this great majority I appeal, knowing that they will be the first ones to condemn in no uncertain terms the outrages committed on the Mexican people in the state of Texas."

NOTE INDICATES TWO NEGROES ARE LYNCHED

Montgomery Advertiser 12-15-22

(Associated Press)

PILOT POINT, TEXAS, Dec. 14.—Two negroes detained yesterday in connection with the theft of two horses, were missing from the jail here this morning. A notice written on plain paper and unsigned, was found on the door of the local newspaper office, reading: "Both negroes got what they had coming. Let this be a warning to all negro loafers. Negroes, get a job or leave town."

TEXAS MOB LYNCHES NEGRO

Baltimore, Md. Baltimore Herald

Streetman, Texas, Dec. 11.—Geo. Gay, a Negro, aged 25, arrested this morning in connection with an alleged attack o na young woman here, was shot and killed by a mob this afternoon. 12-13-22

The body was left chained to the tree in a creek bottom three miles south of Streetman. Feeling continued to run high i nthis community following the shooting.

Local and county officers held a parley shortly after noon in a bank building here and decided that the only chance for the Negro's safety lay in hi sremoval to Fairfield. Approximately 250 automobiles were in line when the sheriff's party removed the Negro from the building where he had been kept under guard.

At a point where the highway crossed a creek bottom the sheriff's party was overtake nand the Negro was removed from its custody by the men.

The officers were held under an armed guard while the Negro was chained to the tree and his body riddled with bullets. Approximately 1,000 persons witnessed the lynching.

The evidence against Gay was declared by officers to be circumstantial, the young woman having failed to identify hi mas her assailant.

TEXAS MOB CELEBRATES LYNCHING BEE

New York News 12/16/22

Two Thousand From Nearby Town Come to Streetman to Join Mob—Girl Alleged to Have Been Attacked Fails to Identify George Gay, Who Is Shot to Death by "Crackers"

(Special to The New York News)

STREETMAN, Texas, Dec. 14.—This town is noted for lynching or, rather, for burning men at the stake, as three colored men have met their fate in that manner during the last three months. So it was a matter of course for the mob which shot and killed George Gay, a young man residing in Fairfield.

Doesn't Identify Gay

Gay, aged 25, was accused by the mob of having attacked a young woman, who told the police that some man had placed a sack over her head and stuffed her mouth with cotton. No criminal assault was alleged, as the girl said that the man became frightened and ran.

Mob Gathers

A mob of 1,500 then gathered, bent on injuring some colored man. Word reached Fairfield, and hundreds of men and women drove to Streetman in buggies. The girl failed to identify Gay when confronted by him. However, he was locked up in a small house under heavy guard pending arrival of bloodhounds from the State penitentiary at Huntsville.

Kills Gay—Burns Hotel

But a mob does not wait for bloodhounds, hence the guards were overpowered and Gay was brought out into the highway and shot to death. The mob then set fire to the Streetman Hotel, the only one owned by colored people in the city. The mob seemed bent on doing more damage, but was dispersed by the police.

MOB OF 1000 KILLS TEXAS NEGRO SUSPECT

Wilmington Morning News Wilmington, Del. 12/16/22

Taken From Officers and Shot. Body Left Chained to Tree

Streetman, Tex., Dec. 11.—George Gay, twenty-five, Negro, arrested this morning in connection with an alleged attack on a young white woman here, was lynched by a mob of 1000 persons this afternoon. Gay was shot to death and his body left chained to a tree three miles south of Streetman.

The girl failed positively to identify Gay as her assailant who had been frightened away after throwing a sack over her head and stuffing her mouth full of cotton.

Approximately 250 automobiles were in the line when the Sheriff's party removed the Negro from the building where he had been kept under guard, and attempted to remove him from the town. The Negro was removed from custody of the officers; who were held under an armed guard while the Negro was chained to the tree and his body riddled with bullets.

A Negro hotel was destroyed by fire following the lynching. The origin of the fire is undetremined.

Streetman is only a short distance from Kirvin, where three Negroes were burned to death by a mob several months ago after one of them had confessed to the murder of a white girl. A few days later the body of another Negro was found hanging from a tree near the scene of the burning. Two weeks ago a Negro "trusty" in the county jail attempted to attack the wife of the Sheriff. He escaped. An uncle of the Negro was shot to death by a posse.

NEGRO IS HANGED AFTER FREESTONE GIRL SAVES SELF

Houston Post Houston, Tex.

Citizens Take Prisoner Away From Sheriff Near Streetman

Ref 12-12-22

Houston Post Special.

CORSICANA, Texas, Dec. 11.—Citizens of Freestone county, numbering about 300, hanged a negro to a tree in a creek bottom south of Streetman, 20 miles north of here, Monday afternoon, following an attempt by a negro, believed to have been the same, to attack a school teacher.

The attack was frustrated when the girl's screams frightened the black. Sheriff Mayo later arrested George Gay, 25, negro, who confessed, implicating another negro. The sheriff's party was intercepted at a lonely spot and the negro taken from them. The second negro had not been found Monday night.

Many people from Corsicana started for Streetman Monday afternoon, but meeting those returning from the scene of the hanging, turned back. Sheriff Walter Hayes of Navarro county came here to assist in keeping order, but no outbreaks took place.

About 2000 persons from nearby communities gathered in Streetman during the day, but most of them left.

TEXAS MOB KILLS NEGRO

Montgomery Advertiser 12-12-22

Alleged Assailant of White Woman Executed

STREETMAN, TEXAS, Dec. 11.—The mob which this afternoon shot and killed George Gay, negro, had dispersed tonight and no further trouble is anticipated. Gay was arrested this morning in connection with an alleged attack on a young woman here. Another negro who was arrested with Gay and who was said by Gay to have been implicated with him in the alleged attack was set free.

The only negro hotel here was destroyed by fire tonight. The origin of the blaze is unknown. Whether there is any connection between the lynching and the fire, officers have been unable to determine.

Colored Man Is Shot to Death by Mob in Texas

Chicago Daily Tribune 12-22-22

Streetman, Tex., Dec. 11.—George Gay, 25, colored, arrested this morning in connection with an alleged attack on a young woman here, was shot and killed by a mob this afternoon. The officers were held under an armed guard while the prisoner was chained to a tree and his body riddled with bullets. Approximately 1,000 persons witnessed the lynching. The evidence against Gay was declared by officers to be circumstantial, the young woman having failed to identify him as her assailant.

TWO SHOT TO DEATH BY TEXAS MOB

New York Herald 12-12-22

STREETMAN, Texas, Dec. 14.—Two colored men were killed here by a mob comprising several hundred men and women. The first man killed was George Gay. Members of the mob accused him of attacking a woman. Excitement ran high and the mob caught a young man, Roger Payne, and shot him to death.

Two Men Taken from Jail and Lynched

Pittsburg American 12-29-22

PILOT POINT, Tex., Dec. 29 (Crusader Service)—Two men, detained yesterday in connection with the theft of two horses, were missing from the jail this morning. An unsigned note was found on the door of a local newspaper office which read: "Both Negroes got what they had coming. Let this be a warning to all Negro loafers. Negroes get a job or leave town."

Two Negroes disappeared from the jail here in a similar manner several months ago and nothing has been heard from them, or of them.

TWO MORE NEGROES LYNCHED IN TEXAS

The Freeman Indianapolis, Ind.

PILOT POINT, Tex., Dec. — Two men, detained yesterday in connection with the theft of two horses, were missing from the jail this morning. An unsigned note was found on the door of a local newspaper office which read "Both Negroes got what they had coming. Let this be a warning to all Negroe loafers. Negroes, get a job or leave town." 12/30/22

Two Negroes disappeared from the jail here in a similar manner several months ago and nothing has been heard from them, or of them.

Lynchings - 1922
Cases of

Texas

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MOB BURNS THREE FOR KILLING GIRL

NEW YORK HERALD
MAY 7, 1922

Negroes Accused of Attacking Texas Student Lynched in Front of Churches.

GRANDFATHER LOOKS ON

Said to Have Given His Approval Before Men Applied Torch to Pyre.

KIRVIN, Tex., May 6 (Associated Press).—Three negroes were burned to death at the same stake here at 5 o'clock this morning by a mob of 500 men, following the negroes' implication in the murder of seventeen-year-old Eula Awsley, white girl, whose mutilated body was found near here Thursday night.

"Snap" Curry, the first negro burned, was taken from the custody of Freestone county officers early last night as he was being conveyed from Wortham to a point west. It is alleged he confessed to the mob he had attacked and murdered the girl and that in his confession he implicated the two other negroes—J. H. Vaney and Mose Jones.

The mob took from the Sheriff his keys to the Freestone county jail, where Jones and Varney were being held. Hurrying to the jail, the mob unlocked the doors and took the two negroes in charge. All three prisoners then were rushed to Kirvin, the home of the girl, and an iron stake driven into the ground on a small square in the heart of the town. Wood was accumulated and saturated with oil.

Bodies Piled Together.

Curry was burned first. There was some delay in burning the last two inasmuch as they maintained their innocence. Third degree methods failed to bring a confession from them, and they finally were burned on the strength of Curry's story. After the third negro had been burned to a crisp all three bodies were piled together and a mass of fuel and oil flung over them and set afire.

The lynchings were carried out deliberately. There was no discharge of firearms, but it was reported that the negroes were mutilated before being to the stake. With the exception of a few shouts and the screams of the condemned men there was little to disturb the early morning quiet of the backwoods community. The plot where the burning took place is in front of two churches. One of the negroes is said to have died singing a hymn.

Miss Awsley was riding her horse home from school, several miles from Kirvin, late Thursday when she was attacked. Her body was found near the road with twenty-three knife wounds in the head, neck and chest. News of the curder spread and late Thursday a band of several hundred men from Freestone and Limestone counties and a large Sheriff's posse were searching the neighborhood. Curry was arrested when his wife told officers he had come home with his clothes stained on the night of the murder.

Crime Planned Months.

Curry is understood to have told his captors that Jones and Varney and himself had planned the crime since last January. The original scheme was to attack two other women as well as Miss Awsley on the same day and in rapid succession.

According to farmers living near the scene of the murder Miss Awsley's screams were heard twice on the evening of the attack, some twenty-five to thirty minutes apart. They paid no attention to the cries, believing a child was being spanked. Officers here said this seemed to indicate the girl was held captive nearly thirty minutes by the negroes before she was killed.

TEAGUE, Texas, May 6.—Two white men were detained to-day for further investigation of their actions preceding the murder of Eula Awsley, for which three negroes were burned at Kirvin this morning. No charges were filed against the men, according to report here.

THREE BURNED BY TEXAS MOB FOR MURDER OF GIRL

Chicago Sunday Tribune 5/7/22

Colored Men Caught in Man Hunt

Kirvin, Tex., May 6.—Three colored men were burned here at dawn for the assault and murder of Eula Ausley, pretty 17 year old school girl, whose body was found near here mutilated by thirty stab wounds.

Tied to the seat of a cultivator placed in the center of the city square here, the three men met their death before a mob of 100.

"Snap" Terry, 26, who was captured after a thirty-six hour chase with bloodhounds, was the first to be burned. He was tied to the seat of the cultivator after he is alleged to have made a confession. Oil was poured on his body and a match struck. As the flames mounted about his body Terry shouted, "O Lord, I'm coming."

Other Two Are Burned.

Mose Jones, 44, and John Cornish, 19, were the other colored men burned.

After Terry had been ignited he shouted: "Burn Jones and John Cornish—they are as guilty as I am."

His chant, "O Lord, I am coming," rose higher and higher as the flames leaped.

Jones was roped and dragged over the hot coals and more wood thrown on. In six minutes he, too, was dead. Cornish was lassoed and dragged on the fire. Again more fuel was added and the three bodies burned together.

The mob heaped wood and oil onto the fire, keeping the blaze going six hours.

Caught in Man Hunt.

The capture of the three followed a thrilling man hunt. Farmers and business men of three counties began early Friday to run down the slayer. Creek bottoms were beaten all day.

When Terry was captured a large crowd gathered around the jail at Worthem. Sheriff H. M. Mayo started to Waco with his prisoner, but the mob followed closely, and on reaching Fairfield he placed Terry in the county jail. Under severe questioning Terry confessed and implicated the other two.

Jones and Cornish were arrested and brought to Fairfield. A mob gathered and stormed the jail. The sheriff was quickly overpowered and the three blacks were taken away to be burned.

NEGRO ASSAILANT BURNED TO DEATH AT COURT HOUSE

Montgomery 5/21/22

(Associated Press)

HOUSTON, TEXAS, May 20.—Joe Winters, 19-year-old negro, identified as the negro who yesterday assaulted a white girl near Beaumont, Montgomery county, was burned to death in the court house square at Conroe this afternoon.

NEGROES BURN AT STAKE FOR DEATH OF SCHOOL GIRL

Freestone County Citizens Obtain Confessions Then Execute Three

5/7/22

CITIZENS EXACT

QUICK PENALTY

Houston Tex. Post

Houston Post Special.

TEAGUE, Texas, May 6.—Snap Curry, Mose Jones and John Cornish, negroes, paid the penalty at the stake early Saturday morning at Kirven for the brutal murder of Eula King, 17-year-old granddaughter of John King, living nine miles north of Teague, near Kirven.

The three negroes lived at Kirven, and one of them made a full confession of the crime, describing it with such minute detail, as to leave no doubt in the minds of the citizens listening to it, that the three negroes were the guilty parties, and that no one else had any complicity in it.

Snap Curry, hired hand of Otis King, uncle of the murdered girl, visited the scene of the crime the next morning after the girl's body was found, and spent more than an hour listening to the conversation of the horrified citizens in discussing the details of the fiendish outrage. Evidently becoming alarmed after awhile he returned to his home, probably three miles distant and left a horse he was riding, he then started afoot in the direction of Wortham, probably about 10 o'clock in the morning. Within 30 minutes thereafter, posses began scouring the country for him, after his wife had reported he had come in late the night before and had washed his blood-stained clothes.

On his shoes was unmistakable evidence of the crime. From then until night scores of men patrolled the roads and scoured the bushes and creeks, but without success.

A little before dark an airplane arrived with the bloodhounds from the State penitentiary, but the dogs were unable to move fast enough to overtake the negro before darkness caused the trainer to stop for daylight. At about sundown a negro man four miles from Wortham caught Snap Curry and notified the officers, who at once hurried him into Wortham. Sheriff H. M. Mayo of Freestone county, who was at Kirven, was then notified and he hurried to Wortham, where hundreds of people had congregated on the streets. The negro was placed in the sheriff's car and a fast run was made out of town with him.

Curry made a statement at Wortham implicating John Cornish and Mose Jones, negroes, and officers at once arrested them at Kirven and took them to the Fairfield jail, where Sheriff Mayo also brought Snap Curry. Hundreds of citizens began arriving at the county seat, and a committee was allowed by the sheriff to enter the jail and help in the examination of Snap Curry.

After questioning the prisoner, the committee then reported to the crowds in the streets, who were growing constantly, and it was demanded that the three prisoners be given up and taken back to the scene of the crime at Kirven.

Again asking the sheriff for a parley Mr. Mayo was seized around the arms and yanked out of the door. At the same time a number of men rushed the jail and overpowered the deputies on the inside, quickly seizing the negroes, the crowd without a shout or a shot, packed them into automobiles and at once began the return trip to Kirven.

Snap Curry was placed in the back seat of a car between two members of the committee who had questioned him without much success in the jail, and he made a full and frank confession of the crime, stating that he and the other two negroes under arrest had planned the same several days before. He stated also that another woman was to have been served in the same manner. Curry said he knew he was going to be killed at once, and that he believed he deserved death.

In telling of the crime he said he joined the other two negroes at the lonely spot where a creek crosses the road traveled by the girl on her way to and from school.

When the girl came up riding horseback, Curry seized the horse's bridle while the other two negroes dragged her from the saddle. He stated that the girl was so strong it took the utmost efforts of the three of them to carry her the several hundred yards to where the body was found. He described the crime in all its horrible details.

After the crime was committed Curry said the negroes separated and that he at once returned to his home.

After being taken from the jail and being returned to Kirven, the crowd halted in the streets of that town and a parley was held. At the request of one of the uncles of the dead girl the crowd discussed the matter quietly. As a result a vacant lot nearby was repaired to and soon probably 50 men began carrying wood and other inflammable material. A large riding plow sufficiently heavy to hold the negroes was brought out and Snap Curry was first chained to it and oil and gasoline poured over the wood.

After burning for several minutes Curry was asked again if the other two negroes were guilty, and he answered that they were equally guilty with him.

In the meantime the gray-haired old grandfather, a patriarch in appearance, arrived upon the premises and a most affecting scene took place. In a shaking voice the old man questioned the two remaining negroes and told the crowd he was convinced they were guilty. As the sun began to break in the east the last two negroes were placed on the funeral pyre and soon ceased to struggle. A crowd of spectators including a number of women and children witnessed the close of the executions.

After 48 hours of sleeplessness and without paying much attention to meals the citizens of three counties who had worked unceasingly in the effort to solve the most dastardly crime in the history of Freestone county, returned to their homes, believing that the three negroes had met the fate they deserved and that they alone were guilty of the crime.

NEGRO DRAGGED TO DEATH.

New York Times 5/20/22

Texas Mob Batters Down Arkansas Jail Door and Lynches Prisoner.

TEXARKANA, Texas, May 19.—Members of a mob here tonight, battering down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller County Jail, Arkansas, a negro, Hullen Owens, who late today shot and fatally wounded B. C. Choate, Arkansas side, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the downtown section.

BODY OF NEGRO IS FOUND BY FARMERS SWINGING TO TREE

Montgomery Advertiser 5/19/22

(Associated Press)

CONROE, TEXAS, May 18.—The body of a young negro was found by Grimes county farmers swinging to a tree by the roadside near Plantersville today. The negro, who was known by the name of Early, apparently had been lynched last night.

Early was taken by officers Monday night when screams of a young white girl, whom it was reported he was attempting to attack, aroused the neighborhood. He was placed in jail at Anderson, but escaped Tuesday Several searching parties and a sheriff's posse were formed. Some of the searchers apparently captured the negro last night and lynched him.

Officers of Grimes county are investigating.

TAKEN FROM JAIL, NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY TEXARKANA MOB

Texarkana, Texas, May 19.—Members of a mob here tonight, battering down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller county jail, Arkansas, a negro, Rullen Owens, who late today shot and fatally wounded L. C. Choate, Arkansas side, dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the downtown section.

Choate died on an operating table in a local hospital soon after the shooting. Owens, who was shot in the mouth by L. J. Lummus, chief of police, managed to escape to the woods in a stolen automobile. He abandoned the car about a mile from town, and attempted to drown himself in a pool, according to Sheriff John Strange, who dragged him from the pool and brought him back here. The mob soon gathered.

TWO TEXAS NEGROES DIE BY LYNCH LAW

Baltimore Herald

Houston, Texas, May 20 (Special).—Two Negroes were lynched in Texas towns today—one being burned at the stake and the other hanged—for attacks on white girls.

At Conroe thousands of persons, including women and children, witnessed the burning of Joe Winters, 25, in the courthouse yard. Juse before the match was applied to his oil-saturated clothing Winters confessed an attack upon a 14-year-old white girl near Leonidas. He was captured after a long chase wtih bloodhounds.

Mose Bozier, 60 years old, was hanged to a tree by a mob of 300 persons near Alleyton after he had been taken from officers who were holding him for an attack on a young white girl yesterday.

FARM HANDS BURNED ON TEXAS PYRE

Chicago Defender 5/13/22

White Suspects Freed; Innocent Men Horribly Mutilated by Wild Posse; Envy Cause

By a Staff Correspondent

Kirvin, Tex., May 12.—Three innocent men were burned at the stake and one hung here this week between two white churches with the pastors looking on, by a mob of 1,000 men and women, as the culmination of a long succession of acts of Jim Crowism, vandalism, segregation on trains, in restaurants, in residential districts, peonage, and night murder, on the part of the newly rich southern whites in this great oil region.

The men burned were "Snap" Curry, 26; Mose Jones, 19, and Johnnie Cornish, 39. One man, Shadrach Green, was hung to a tree.

Two white men, the Prowell brothers, were arrested later on charges growing out of the crime for which the innocent men paid their lives—that of the slaying of Eula Ausley, 17-year-old white girl.

Curry, Jones and Cornish stoutly maintained their innocence.

Mob Burns Aid

Shortly after the discovery of the crime, Curry, who with the other men was employed on the farm of old John King, the girl's grandfather, offered the authorities his aid in the effort to discover the perpetrator of the crime. He told the mob of about 500 men a story involving some white men with whom King had had legal trouble some time before and which had become the basis of one of the infamous southern family feuds. It is now believed that Curry's story was so straight that he and the other men were made to pay the penalty in order to protect the true criminals and to cover up the mistake of the mob in taking him into custody.

Curry did do all that he could to persuade the officers to follow his advice, one of the deputy sheriffs being a relative of the slain girl. He left this town a member of the posse; he returned a victim. The other two men burned were friends of Curry's. They came to the scene of the burning in an effort to clear their comrade, hoping that they could establish an alibi. The mob leader, grandfather of the dead girl, refused to listen to them. Instead, as soon as Curry's body had been burned, these friends were seized by the mob. The grandfather and a cousin held the living bodies over the fire until life was gone.

Mutilate Bodies

Before burning the men the mob indulged itself in imposing the most horrid mutilations on the bodies of the victims. Ears were clipped off, feet were mangled and eyes punched out. No independent organ of the body was left untouched, the men being stripped in front of the female members of the mob, some of whom stayed in automobiles, and the frenzy of the crowd being allowed to run its course.

White preachers in the crowd encouraged its actions and indulged in a mock ceremony for the souls of the burning. The pyre was built between two white churches.

No effort was made at secrecy. The entire populace took part in the bloody and tragic festivity. Mixed in the mob were physicians, lawyers, judges, and policemen. The man Curry was taken from the custody of the sheriff, Mayo, and no further effort was made to protect him.

After burning the three men the posse started on a rampage. The burning had occurred in the morning. That afternoon the body of another victim, Shadrach Green, was found hanging from a tree. News leaked out of Curry's story involving the white men charged with the crime. They were arrested but later were released by popular consent.

Jealousy Is Cause

Widespread excitement now exists in this section of the state. Most of the inhabitants are newcomers, having been lured by the smell of oil, plenty of which was used in burning Curry, Jones and Cornish. Despite all that the whites have been able to do, Race men and women have bought land and have become wealthy from it. Increasing antipathy has been registered by the whites because of Race men riding in automobiles, getting good homes and demanding first-class accommodations—things they were able to pay for. To kill it all, they have decided on a system of blanket discrimination. Money or no money, they contend, we won't let you have it. As a consequence, when a Race man enters a restaurant, he must carry a note from a white man to get anything—even to take out. Builders refuse to put up decent churches or schools or homes for them.

MOB BURNS THREE NEGROES AT STAKE

New York Times

Texans Take Swift Vengeance on Men Accused of Murdering White Girl.

5/7/22

ONE CONFESSES HIS GUILT

Grandfather of Their Victim Present and Gives His Consent Before Fire Is Lighted.

KIRVIN, Texas, May 6 (Associated Press).—Three negroes were burned to death at the same stake here at 5 o'clock this morning by a mob of 500 men, following their alleged implication in the assault and murder of 17-year-old Eula Awsley, a white girl, whose mutilated body was found near here Thursday night.

"Snap" Curry, the first negro burned, was taken from the custody of Freestone County officers early last night as he was being conveyed from Wortham to some point west. It is alleged that he confessed to the mob that he had assaulted and murdered the girl and that in his confession he implicated the two other negroes, J. H. Varney and Mose Jones.

The mob took from the Sheriff his keys to the Freestone County Jail, where Jones and Varney were being held as suspects. Hurrying to the jail, the mob unlocked the doors and took the two negroes in charge. All three prisoners were then rushed to Kirvin, the home of the dead girl, and an iron stake was driven into the ground on a small square in the heart of the town. Wood was piled up and saturated with oil.

Curry was burned first, then Varney and Jones. There was some delay in burning the last two, as they steadfastly maintained their innocence. Third degree methods failed to bring a confession from them, and they were finally cremated on the strength of Curry's testimony.

Bodies Burned Together.

After the third negro had been burned to a crisp, the three bodies were piled together and a mass of fuel and oil was flung over them. This was ignited, the flames soaring twenty-five or thirty feet into the air.

The mob rapidly dispersed, and as day dawned there were only a few persons remaining to witness the aftermath of the triple cremation.

When the fire finally died down this morning nothing but ashes remained of the three bodies.

Curry, the alleged confessed slayer of Miss Awsley, is understood to have told his captors that Jones, Varney and himself had planned the crime since January. The original plan was to assault two other women as well as Miss Awsley on the same day and in rapid succession, Curry was quoted as having said. He did not say why the plan had failed.

The three negroes were employed on the farm of J. T. King, a prominent farmer of this community, and grandfather of the dead girl, with whom she lived, both her parents being dead. Mr. King was present at the lynching and the mob leaders are said to have obtained his approval before lighting the torches.

Mob Acts Deliberately.

The lynching was carried out deliberately. There was no discharge of firearms. It is reported, however, that the negroes were mutilated before being tied to the stake. With the exception of a few shouts and the screams of the condemned men, there was little to disturb the early morning quiet of the backwoods community. The plot where the burning took place is in front of two churches. One of the negroes is said to have died singing a church anthem.

Kirvin, a town of about 500 inhabitants, is in Freestone County, East Central Texas, about 80 miles south of Dallas.

Miss Awsley was riding her horse home from school, several miles from Kirvin, late Thursday when she was attacked. Her body was found near the road with twenty-three knife wounds in the head, neck and chest.

News of the murder spread quickly and Thursday night a band of several hundred men from Freestone and Limestone Counties and a large sheriff's posse scoured the neighborhood. Curry was arrested when his wife told officers he had come home with his clothes covered with blood on the night of the murder. He was taken to Wortham and imprisoned in a bank for safekeeping.

A mob gathered about the bank last night and threatened to storm the building, and officers spirited the prisoner through a rear window and started with him in an automobile toward Mexia, a[illegible] en route to Waco. The mob [illegible] surrounded the car and de[illegible]ed the negro. Resistance seemed [illegible]eless and the prisoner was surrendered.

TEAGUE, Texas, May 6.—Two white men were detained today for further investigation of their actions preceding the attack and murder of Eula Awsley for which three negroes were burned at Kirvin this morning. No charges were filed against the men, according to reports here.

TWO NEGRO LYNCHINGS IN TEXAS SATURDAY

Atlanta Constitution 5/21/22

Columbia, Texas, May 20.—Mose Bozier, 60-year-old negro, was hanged to a tree today by a mob of 300 persons near Alleyton after he had been taken from officers who were holding him on a charge of an attack on a young white girl yesterday.

Burned At Stake.

Conroe, Texas, May 20.—Joe Winters, negro, 25 years old, was burned at the stake in the courthouse yard here this afternoon. Thousands of persons, including women and children, witnessed the burning.

Winters, just before the match was touched to his oil-saturated clothing, admitted an attack upon a 14-year-old white girl near Leonidas.

The burning of Winters followed a long chase with bloodhounds.

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN MAY 19 1922

Negro Youth Lynched After Fleeing Jail

CONROE, Tex., May 18.—The body of a young negro was found by farmers swinging to a tree near Plantersville to-day. He apparently had been lynched last night.

The youth was taken by officers Monday when screams of a young white girl attracted them. He was placed in jail but escaped.

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SCENE OF BURNING OF THREE NEGROES BY MOB AT KIRVIN

FORT WORTH TEX TELEGRAM
MAY 13, 1922

The picture shows the inferno at Kirvin, small Freestone County town, where three negroes were burned for the alleged assault and murd Miss Eula Ousley, 17, school girl. The iron seat of the plow to which the negroes were chained can be seen in the picture. The picture was taken only a few minutes after the last of the three negroes was burned and before much of the crowd dispersed. T ning occurred in the shadow of a church. One day later another negro was found hanging in a pasture near Kirvin. —P. & A. Phot

DALLAS TEX NEWS
JUNE 3, 1922

THREE NEGROES BURNED RECENTLY AT KIRVIN

Miss Eula Ausley, a 17-year-old school girl, was assaulted, murdered and her body mutilated by three negroes near Kirvin, Texas, on Thursday, May 4.

When the girl did not return from school on that day her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John King, on their farm, three miles southeast of Kirvin, instituted a search and found her riderless horse at 6 p. m. A general alarm was sent out. Posses gathered quickly and the surrounding country for miles around was searched.

Snap Curry, the confessed ringleader in the crime, who was captured near Wortham the following day, had been a member of one of the posses searching for the criminals. All day Friday he worked beside the two uncles of the murdered girl, but when he heard that bloodhounds were to be sent from Huntsville he disappeared.

An officer became suspicious when Curry disappeared, and the latter's home was searched. The negro's wife then admitted that Curry had told her he had killed the girl. The woman was taken into custody and the bloodhounds, taken to the scene of the outrage, followed the scent to Curry's home. From there they started down the road toward Wortham, 100 men following.

Harry Spence, an old negro, encountered Curry near Wortham with the dogs but two miles behind him. Spence had Curry mount beside him on his horse and turned him over to Homer Miller, a white farmer, living two miles south of Wortham.

Events then moved swiftly. The negro was taken to Wortham and placed in jail and later in a vault of the Wortham State Bank Building. It was while at the bank that Curry confessed. He described the most revolting details of the crime with no perceptible emotion. Then he gave the name of his alleged accomplices, Mose Jones nad John Cornish, both of whom had worked for the uncle of the girl.

Meanwhile, the Wortham mob was growing bolder, and Sheriff Mayo slipped the prisoner out of a back window in the bank and h[illegible]d toward Mexia in an automobi[illegible] Thirty cars pursued. Two miles out the party had nearly overtaken the officers. The car was abandoned, and, with their prisoner, the officers plunged into a cotton patch on foot.

Every road was guarded by armed men. From Corsicana Friday night 150 cars, many bristling with shotguns and rifles, went out on the strength of a report that the officers were headed for the Navarro County jail. But the Sheriff eluded all pursuers, and, recovering his car, landed his man in jail at Fairfield.

In the meantime, Jones had been arrested on suspicion in Kirvin. The third negro, Cornish, was picked up in Kirvin streets following a telephone message from Wortham.

The Fairfield jail was stormed at 3 a. m. Saturday by 500 men. The Sheriff protested, but to no avail. The mob triumphed and dragged the three negroes to Kirvin.

The negroes were burned to death, one at a time, after being mutilated. A huge fire of cordwood was kindled in the town square just as dawn broke. While the first one died, the other two were forced to watch his body consumed by the flames.

The bodies burned until noon, when the last vestige of human form was burned to ashes. The mob dispersed, to be replaced by crowds of the curious, who thronged the town all that day.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn. 9-8-22

Tried Twice on Murder Charge in Texas.

BEAUMONT, Texas, Sept. 7.—O. J. Johnson, negro, twice tried on a charge of murder in connection with the killing of a turpentine camp foreman near Hemphill four years ago, was taken from the jail at Newton at 1 o'clock this morning by a mob and strung to a tree limb and his body riddled with bullets.

NEGRO IS LYNCHED BY MOB IN TEXAS

Atlanta Constitution

Beaumont, Texas, September [illegible] O. J. Johnson, negro, twice tried on a charge of murder, was taken from the jail at Newton today, strung to a tree limb and his body riddled with bullets.

Three Negroes, Chained to Plow, Are Burned to Death at Stake

NEW YORK CITY AMERICAN
MAY 10 1922

FLAMES WREAK FATAL VENGEANCE ON NEGROES—After being pursued as slayers of Eula Ausley, seventeen, attacked on her way to school in Huntsville, Texas, three negroes were lynched at the stake. The girl's throat was cut. Scene shows the charred fuel and plow after the three bodies were removed. (P. & A.)

BLOODHOUNDS CAUGHT THREE AL LEGED SLAYERS—Two men who led the manhunt in Texas for the three neg later burned at the stake followed the blazed by the two dogs. (P. &

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100 AUTOS TAKE LYNCHING PARTY TO CITY SQUARE

N Y C CALL
MAY 7, 1922

One Victim, Said to Have Confessed Under Torture to Slaying Girl, Implicates Two Others.

ALL ARE MUTILATED

Two White Brothers, Suspects, Released Later—Sheriff Says Tracks Led to Their Door.

KIRVIN, Texas, May 6.—Three Negroes, "Snap" Curry, 26; Mose Jones, 44, and John Cornish, 19, were burned alive here at dawn after being charged with the assault and murder of Eula Auslzy, 17-year-old school girl, whose body was found near here mutilated by 30 stab wounds.

Tied to the seat of a cultivator, placed in the center of the city square here, the Negroes met their death before a mob of 100.

Accuses Other Two.

Curry, who was captured after a 36-hour chase with bloodhounds, was the first to be burned. He was tied to the seat of the cultivator after he is alleged to have made a confession. Oil was poured on his body and a match struck As the flames mounted about his body, Curry shouted, "Oh, Lord, I'm coming." He called out:

"Burn Jones and John Cornish—they are as guilty as I am."

Curry's chant, "Oh, Lord, I'm coming," rose higher and higher as the flames leaped.

Then the body was completely saturated with kerosene and petroleum.

Curry's chant died away.

Jones was then roped and dragged over the plow.

Wood was thrown on. In about six minutes he died.

Cornish was lassoed and dragged on to the fire. Again more fuel was added and the three bodies were burned to a crisp.

At 8 o'clock the fire was still burning.

Three Counties in Man Hunt.

The capture of the three Negroes followed the most thrilling man hunt in Texas history. Farmers and business men of the three counties began early yesterday morning to run down the slayers of the white girl. With a clue from another Negro that "Snap" Curry was guilty, creek bottoms and hills were beaten back and forth all day.

Curry was captured about 5:30 Friday afternoon five and one-half miles south of Wortham.

News of the capture spread rapidly and within an hour a large crowd had gathered about the jail. The Negro was slipped out and taken to Fairfield, where he was placed in the county jail. Under torture the Negro is said to have confessed and implicated the other two Negroes at Kirvin.

All Three Mutilated.

Jones and Cornish were arrested and brought to Fairfield. No sooner than they had been placed behind the bars than a mob of close to 400 gathered and stormed the jail. The guard was quickly overpowered and the three Negroes were taken and placed in automobiles.

More than 100 autos led the parade back to Kirvin, a distance of about 13 miles.

The cavalcade arrived in Kirvin about 4 a. m. and circled the square. A plow was placed in the square. A large amount of wood was on hand by the time the Negroes were taken out of the automobiles.

Curry was first brought to the plow and strapped and chained to the iron seat. He was then mutilated and crude oil and kerosene poured over him. He cried out to burn the other two Negroes and started singing as the match was applied.

Jones and Cornish did not confess to participation in the crime. They were also mutilated before being burned.

FAIRFIELD, Tex., May 6.—Claude and Audie Crowell, two white men, held here pending an investigation of their connection with the murder of Eula Ausley, were released from custody shortly before noon today, when authorities were convinced they had no connection with the crime.

John King, grandfather of the dead girl, told the officials that he was convinced that the three Negroes burned at the stake at Kirvin today were guilty of the crime and the Crowells had nothing to do with it.

Previous to the release of the Crowells, however, Sheriff H. M. Mayo declared that tracks leading from the scene of the murder led to the home of the brothers.

"The shoes of the Crowells fit the tracks," was the terse comment of the sheriff.

One of the brothers was arrested yesterday, and the other surrendered after the mob had taken the Negroes from the jail here.

"In the pockets of one of the Negroes was $15," the sheriff said. "The King and Crowell families had some kind of a fight some time ago, in which one of the Crowells was badly cut. This is just another clue we are following."

At Kirvin hundreds of persons flocked to see the funeral pyre of the dead Negroes, "Snap" Curry, Mose Jones and John Cornish. Charred bones in red coals were all that was left.

NEW YORK HERALD
MAY 28, 1922

Tenth Negro Lynched in Texas Is Believed to Have Been Innocent

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

WACO, Tex., May 27.—Disorder which ruled Waco yesterday and culminated in the burning of the body of Jesse Thomas, negro, on the public square, has subsided, and persons here are wondering whether the guilty man was lynched for the killing of W. Harrell Bolton, 25, and the attack on his companion, Mrs. Maggie Hays, 26, four miles from here late Thursday.

Thomas was seized on the public square by a telegraph operator while hundreds of citizens in a dozen posses were trailing the county. The negro was hurried to the home of Mrs. Hays, where the woman arose from her bed and screamed: "That's him!" Sam Harris, father of Mrs. Hays, seized a pistol and killed the negro as he attempted to escape.

Mrs. Hays said Thomas told her the negroes were ready to launch an organized campaign against white women in revenge for the lynching of negroes.

During the night Waco officers quelled disturbances. A hearse and a coffin arranged by a negro undertaker to care for Thomas's body were destroyed.

Waco is a strong Ku Klux Klan center and has been the scene of numerous riots.

Members of the family of the negro lynched yesterday were to-day submitting strong evidence to show that the latest mob victim was at home when Mrs. Hays was attacked. The lynching of Thomas was the tenth accomplished by mobs in this section in the last three weeks.

N. Y. C. TRIBUNE
MAY 21, 1922

Two Negroes Lynched in Texas, Total Is Four in Three Days

CONROE, Tex., May 20.—Joe Winters, a negro, twenty-five years old, was burned at the stake in the courthouse yard here this afternoon. Thousands of persons, including women and children, witnessed the burning.

Winters, just before the match was touched to his oil-saturated clothing, admitted an attack upon a fourteen-year-old white girl near Leonidas. The burning of Winters followed a long chase with bloodhounds.

COLUMBUS, Tex., May 20.—Mose Bozier, sixty-year-old negro, was hanged to a tree to-day by a mob of 300 persons near Alleyton after he had been taken from officers who were holding him on a charge of an attack on a young white girl yesterday.

The lynchings at Alleyton and Conroe yesterday make four mob executions in Texas in the last three days. On Thursday a negro fifteen years old was burned to death over a slow fire after a mob had obtained a confession from him that he was implicated in the killing of a woman. After burning the young negro the mob scattered to search for two other negroes he named as having part in the killing.

On Friday at Texarkana a negro who had shot and mortally wounded a white man was dragged at the end of a rope until he was dead, and his body was then tossed into a fire and incinerated.

NEW YORK HERALD
MAY 20, 1922

Texas Mob Drags Negro to Death and Burns Body in City's Cent

TEXARKANA, Tex., May 19.—Members of a mob here to-night, battering down the jail door with an iron beam, took from the Miller county jail, Arkansas, a negro, Hullen Owens, who

H. M. Barney made an ineffectual pl that the law be permitted to take course.

The negro was dragged eight block death resulting from strangulatio Twice the mob attempted to hoist the

late to-day shot and fatally wounded R. C. Choate, Arkansas side; dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and afterward burned the body in the downtown section.

Choate died on an operating table in a hospital soon after the shooting.

Owens, who was shot in the mouth by L. J. Tummus, Chief of Police, managed to escape to the woods in a stolen automobile. He abandoned the car about a mile from town and attempted to drown himself in a pool, according to Sheriff John Strange, who dragged him from the pool and brought him back.

Thousands of persons surrounded the jail during the attack, but only a comparatively small number actually participated in the lynching. Judge

body to telephone poles, but each time the mob cried: "Let's burn him!" and the body was lowered.

Owens had been arrested last night charged with theft of automobile accessories, and at the time of the shooting this afternoon was being taken to a place where he said he had hidden some of the articles.

Taking the officers into an alley, he reached a trash barrel, saying he would produce a battery, but instead he pulled out a weapon, turned on Chief of Police Lummus and ordered the officer to stand back. Chief Lummus shot Owens in the mouth, Owens returning the fire but missing. Owens then fled three blocks and commandeered an automobile. Choate was shot by Owens while attempting to prevent the negro from getting away with the car.

MOB BURNS THREE NEGROES FOR BRUTAL CRIME IN WHICH TWO WHITE MEN ARE HELD

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BROOKLYN N. Y. CITIZEN
MAY 6, 1922

FAIRFIELD, Texas, May 6.—Claude and Audie Crowell, white men were in jail here to-day pending an investigation in connection with assault and murder of pretty little Eula Ausley, 17, at Kirvin, for which crime three negroes were terribly mutilated and burned to death at dawn to-day.

Tracks leading from the scene of the murder led to the home of the brothers, Sheriff H. M. Mayo said.

"The shoes of the Crowells fit the tracks," was the terse comment of the sheriff.

One of the brothers was arrested yesterday and the other surrendered after the mob had taken the Negroes from the jail here.

"In the pockets of one of the Negroes was $15," the sheriff said. "The King and Crowell families had some kind of a fight some time ago, in which one of the Crowells was badly cut. This is just another clue we are following."

At Kirvin hundreds of persons flocked to see the funeral pyre of the dead Negroes, "Snap" Curry, Mose Jones and John Cornish. Charred bones in red coals were all that was left.

KIRVIN, Texas, May 6.—Three Negroes were burned here at dawn for the assault and murder of Eula Ausley, pretty seventeen-year-old school girl, whose body was found here mutilated by thirty stab wounds. A mad mob rushed the jail at Fairfield and took the prisoners away in autos.

Tied to the seat of a cultivator, placed in the center of the City Square, here, the three Negroes met their death before a mob of 500.

"Snap" Curry, 26, who was captured after a thirty-six-hour chase with bloodhounds, was the first to be found. He was tied to the seat of the cultivator. Oil was poured on his body and a match struck. As the flames mounted about his body, Curry shouted, "Oh, Lord I'm coming."

Mose Jones, 44, and John Cornish, 19, were the other Negroes burned.

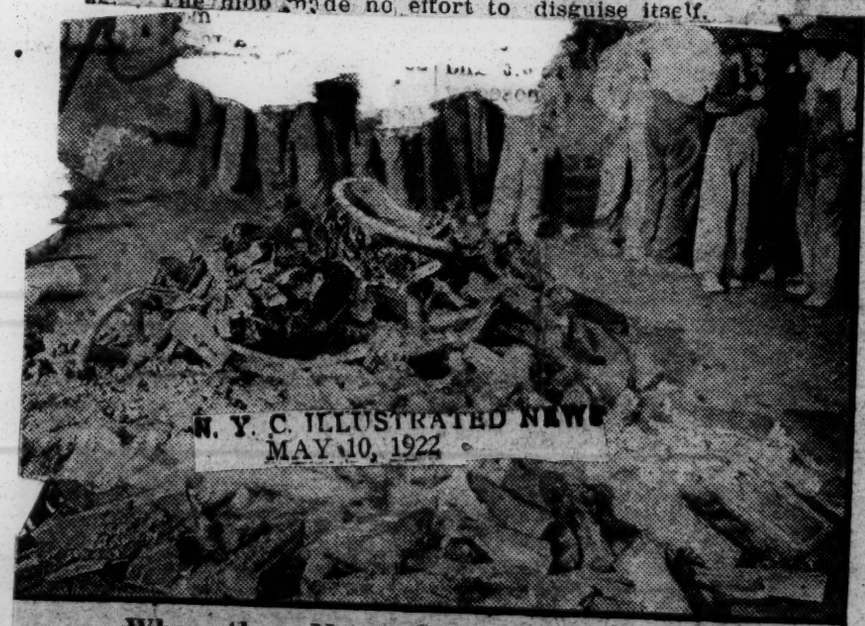
The capture of the three blacks followed the most thrilling manhunt in Texas history. Farmers and business men of three counties began early Friday morning to run down the slayers of the white girl. With a clue from another Negro that "Snap" Curry was guilty, creek bottoms and hills were beaten back and forth all day.

Burned at the Stake:—While the Senate Debates

Baltimore Afro American 5/26/22

While the U. S. Senate debates the wisdom of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, Texas mobs lynch six colored boys and men in this month. Photo shows debris in which are contained charred remains of three men burned to death at Kervin, Texas.

The men were bound to the plough seat with trace chains and gasoline poured over their clothing. The mob made no effort to disguise itself.



N. Y. C. ILLUSTRATED NEWS
MAY 10, 1922

Where three Negroes were burned at stake.

(By Pacific & Atlantic)

Otis C. King, uncle of slain girl, and bloodhound used in tracking slayers.

VENGEANCE.—For their alleged complicity in slaying of Eula Ausley, three Negroes were burned at the stake in Kirvin, Tex. Mob rule prevailed several days and was subdued yesterday.

"Safe For Democracy" Goes Up In Texas Smoke

Heart-Sickening Story of How Texans Burned Three Innocent Men at Stake. Details of the Story as Given Here are Published for the First Time. They Were Related to a Defender Reporter by a White Reporter Who Witnessed the Entire Orgy. It Has been Impossible to Obtain Any Actual Photographs of the Scenes, Representatives of Picture Syndicates Declaring That the Mob's Actions Were Too Atrocious to Be Marketable in Pictures.

Southern Family Feuds Are Notorious Thru-out the World—As a Sacrifice to One of These Feuds Were These Three Human Beings, Citizens of America and the Peers of "His Majesty," the American, Barbecued While the Tender Hearts, the Flower of the South, Looked On

No Ruffians Performed the Fiery Task—It Was the Grandfather, a Decrepit Old Man, Who Applied the Torch—A Girl Had Been Slain, by White Enemies of Her Family, and Her Brothers and Relatives, Members of the Police Corps, Led the Mob in Its Thirst for Blood

By LEON CORNICK

"WHOM the gods would destroy, they first make mad."

Fearing the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, white southerners are endeavoring to get in all the pleasure they possibly can by lynching three and four men at once.

Texas was the scene and Texans were the perpetrators of the most revolting and dastardly crime committed this year against the Race. The little oil town of Kirvin was the locale.

Here it was that four innocent Race men gave up their lives on the altar of ignorance and prejudice.

"Snap" Curry, Mose Jones, Johnnie Cornish and Shadrach Green were the four unfortunate victims of the mob, who numbered five hundred or more. Curry, Jones and Cornish were burned to death. Green was hanged. It is needless to say that none of the members of the mob have been apprehended.

Kirvin, Texas, was brought into the limelight some months ago by prospectors in the employ of eastern capitalists, who discovered oil in the vicinity. This occasioned great excitement and people from all over the state and some from adjoining states flocked there. Race men as well as white.

Land Problem

As is customary, the whites endeavored by every means in their power to prevent the Race from securing land, but despite their efforts Race men and women bought land and became wealthy. This enraged the whites to such an extent that numerous near riots have been staged in order that those holders of property who were not white would become frightened and move away.

Automobiles, smooth-running and of expensive make, decent homes, with baths and other conveniences, in contrast with the old "hack" and shack of other days, caused an increasing antipathy to be registered against the possessors. Automobile firms were warned not to fill any more orders for members of the Race. White contractors were threatened with dire violence should they build any more homes for them. It mattered not that the man had money. As a letter to one of the contractors has it, "* * * them houses is making the niggers think they're as good as white folks, so that settles it. You'd better not build no more of 'em, and if you do, well, you know what'll happen to you."

Yet the American people send missionaries to foreign lands to convert the heathen, when they could be utilized in the southern states, educating the heathen "cracker." Missions are set up to civilize the cannibal, when Texas, Georgia and Mississippi boast more barbarians than darkest Africa.

The burning and hanging of these four men was not engendered solely by the possession of wealth. This was only one factor. These men were poor, and poor indeed. Curry was a farm hand, employed on the farm of John King. Jones, Cornish and Green were all poor men, and worked as farm hands on any farm where they were needed. At the time of their untimely deaths it is highly improbable that they could have mustered a dollar and a half among the four of them.

Southern Feuds

Anyone who has read any at all has at some time or another read of the bitter feuds among members of various southern families—feuds in which whole families have been wiped out. It has been ascertained that something of this order was at the bottom of the trouble which ended in the death of these four men.

As has already been stated, Curry was employed on the farm of John King, white, and one of the leaders of the mob which wreaked its dire vengeance on the unfortunates. Eula Ausley, aged 17, was the granddaughter of King. Some months ago King and one of his neighbors, another white farmer, had some trouble, which affair was later aired in court. King won the legal contest, but the other white man, whose name has not yet been learned, threatened to "get even" and called upon his relatives to join him in vindicating the family honor. Word was sent to King to "watch his step," that his erstwhile adversary was "loaded for b'ar."

Light skirmishes took place on both sides, but no real harm was done until recently.

One day the citizens of the little town of Kirvin were astounded by the report that the Ausley girl had been killed. Posses were formed and straightway headed for the King farm.

During the feud skirmishes, the combatants had all been white, but when the posses arrived at the farm after the slaying of the old man's granddaughter, it was found that one of the employees on the farm could throw some light on the crime. He was called in from the fields and questioned by the authorities. He told a very straight story and involved several well-known white men in the affair.

According to his story the crime grew out of the infamous family feud and was the outcome of the old man's enemy's threat to get even. Curry went so far as to name the probable perpetrators.

Try to Hush Curry

As these men were so well known in the vicinity and, it has been hinted, were capable of wielding much powerful influence, efforts were made to hush Curry up. Even the grandfather of the slain girl made an effort to have Curry retract his statement. But the farm hand knew what he was talking about and stuck to his story.

The mob, numbering over 500, then started on a hunt for the guilty parties, led by Old Man King. But instead of trying to find the murderers they, after getting Curry out in the country, tried all the means in their power to have him change his story, but to no avail. He was steadfast.

He was threatened with all sorts of punishment if he did not retract. Finding that they could not make him change his testimony, it was decided among the leaders that they charge him with the crime, take him back to town and lynch him.

This was to be done in order that the men whom he involved should not suffer. As one of the deputies put it, "Ye cain't hang a white man on the word of a nigger."

This deputy was a relative of the dead girl.

Curry was questioned as to his whereabouts on the day of the murder, but to all of their questions he gave satisfactory answers. He even called on Old Man King and several other members of the mob, who could testify that he was working all day. But they, understanding the proceedings, disclaimed all knowledge of where he was on the fateful day.

Charged With Crime

The lad was then formally charged with the crime and arrested. The mob then started back to town, where they promised that "big doin's" would soon be in process.

Everyone knows that there is now before congress a bill to prevent lynching, and there is reason to suppose that it will be passed by that body. Members of the mob made frequent reference to the bill while on their way back to Kirvin. Southerners are opposing the passage of this anti-lynching bill because it will deprive them of one of their most enjoyable diversions.

Members of this particular mob made no bones of showing their attitude in this connection. Such remarks as, "We'll had better hasten and lynch this damn niggers we can, before them damn nigger-lovers down at Washington gits their bill through," and "Suttinly is gittin' to be a hell of a state where a white man cain't lynch a nigger when he wants to."

Harsh things were said of the government, and angry mob members consigned it to the hottest part of the infernal regions. Feeling ran very high among them. Just imagine, a white man restrained by the law from lynching a member of the Race whenever he chose. The thought of the results of the passage of such a law served to incense the mob all the more, and they forthwith vented their spleen upon the unfortunate Curry.

Administer Beating

They pitched into the boy and beat him black and blue. So "het up" were they that had it not been for other members of the mob, cooler headed and more cruel minded, there would have been no victim for the stake. The pleading of their pleas to the headstrong ones evidenced their reason for not wishing the boy beat to death. They pleaded:

"Wait, men, don't disappoint the women folks."

"If you're goin' to beat him to death, thar's no use in going back to town."

"Don't kill the nigger now, boys; save him for the fire."

It was such pleading as this that caused the mob to restrain itself. After the first wrath subsided for the time. Back to town they wended their way.

For one to understand the real conditions existing in Texas and other southern states, it is necessary to take the reader back to the occurrence of happenings, which will at first seem of minor importance, but which later take on great import.

It is essential that the relations existing between the races be understood.

Race Relations

A Race man, born a Jones and christened Thomas, is known all over the town by the whites as "Cap'n Jack Carter's nigger, Tom." He is employed by this Jack Carter as a man-of-all-work. Or, rather, he is driven by this man Carter. When the displeases Carter he receives a good trouncing. Yet we say that the days of slavery are over.

There is no relation as employer and employee, but it is one of master and slave.

If Carter rises in the morning in an exceedingly bad humor, Tom is the recipient of curses and blows. Does he dare retaliate? I should say not. He dare not even leave this man's employment. If he presumes to say a word in his own defense, he is severely beaten. If he attempts to defend himself physically, he is lynched for "sassing a white man." If he quits his job, he is picked up by the police and sentenced to a term on the county roads. He may be farmed out to plantation owners who may have need of his services. This graduates into a form of peonage, the details of which were exposed not so long ago in the columns of this paper.

Some few of the Race own their homes (such as they are) and in many cases the said home is not fit for a dog to lie down in. The ones to which I make reference are the terrible board shacks seen on every hand throughout the South, in which poor Race folk are forced to live. It is here that the man, assisted by his wife, tries to wrest a frugal living and a body-covering from the few poor acres surrounding their shack.

It is here that they must bring their children into the world, rear them, and sometimes bury them. Fair wages, comfortable living quarters, considerate working conditions are things unknown to the Race man as a whole in the South. The whites are withholding these privileges in the same way that they withhold the right of suffrage—by intimidation.

Object of Restrictions

Immediately the question arises, "What is the object of all this curtailment of legal and personal freedom?"

The answer is SELFISHNESS. The southern white man is so wrapped up in his own mean, mercenary, narrow-minded existence that he will suffer anything to happen to those whom he considers his inferiors to further his own self-seeking indulgence.

His paltriness, unscrupulousness and meanness assert themselves in his insidious, Machiavellian rascality. A Race man is born to be a servant and a slave. That is his idea, and it is one that is held by his women folk also. They have their "Aunties," who do their cooking, their laundering, nurse their children, keep their homes clean and spotless.

There you have the answer in all its fullness. As a farm hand, a body servant or man-of-all-work, the Race man excels. There is no one who can produce crisper organdie ruffles or pay more patient attention to the exquisite detail of baby clothes than "Auntie."

Is is then any wonder that the whites fear any change in existing conditions? Is it then any wonder that they scheme and figure to retain the status quo of the ante-bellum days? Their only hope in life is to see that no legislation is proposed that will in any way change this condition.

Naturally, when their late servants, or slaves, began to reap the advantages of the oil boom in Mexia, Kirvin, and other towns in Limestone and Freestone counties, became millionaires over night, they feared for their own existence. Too lazy to work for themselves, too covetous and venal to pay a fair wage to anyone to do it for them, base-minded enough to demand that someone do it for nothing, and cruel-hearted enough to force its accomplishment by a large-hearted, generous and devoted Race.

This is not the half. That so many of the Race are of varying colors is due to the fact that the southern white man has been, and is, a betrayer of Race women. He upheld his vicious depravity by the power of his arm. Race men, the natural protectors of Race womanhood, were bullied, and prevented from exercising their God-given rights. Punishment was administered to them if they even dared to mutter. Race men dared not request that their wives or sisters be let alone by these human reptiles. Lynching put an end to their complaints. The rope, the torch, the stake all assisted in the degradation of OUR women.

This is the condition that will be stopped by the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. For with the passage of this bill, Race men will be intimidated no more. Southern residents will think twice before inviting federal action for pursuing their favorite pastime, lynching. Realizing this, these cowardly poltroons are endeavoring to get in their sneaking, craven, dirty business before the bill is passed.

Now to get back to Curry and his captors.

When the mob with its victim had arrived within a few miles of town, members who were mounted were sent on ahead to inform others that they were on their way with Curry and that "good times" were in preparation for all.

Everyone began to prepare to "take in the good time."

Women called each other on the telephone asking if they were going to the "show." They adjured their particular friends to be on hand early so as to have places of prominence in the throng where they could witness all the details.

In fact, a holiday was declared for this occasion. The news was all over town hours before the mob got in with Curry. The vanguard of the mob, after seeing that all the whites had been informed of the coming "event," then went about their plans to prepare for it.

An iron hitching-stake was secured from a blacksmith, and a set of chains. A force of men immediately set to work planting this in the ground in a very prominent section of the town. These workers joked with each other about the proposed lynching while they worked.

The spot where the stake was imbedded into the ground was equidistant from two of the finest white churches in the town. These temples of God were not over a hundred yards from the scene of the bestial orgy that soon was to take place. Members of the congregations of these two churches passed this place during the day and questioned the sweating and toiling men, who were working so hard at their job of preparing for the taking of innocent human life. They were told with laughter of the "celebration" and cordially invited to attend.

Probably you will ask why they did not notify the authorities and have a stop put to this fiendish thing. What was the use, when it is well known that southern police authorities are usually mob sympathizers and condoners of mob outrages? No, it would have been useless, even if they had had the imagination. But a southerner is a southerner, and can no more change his disposition than a leopard can change his spots. They hate the Race with a lasting, rabid, unreasoning hatred, and, no matter what their station in life may be, they all think pretty much along he same lines as concerns our people.

After the stake had been driven into the ground, little groups of men and women gathered around it to discuss the repulsive scene soon to be observed.

In a short time evidences of great excitement were noticed toward the main road leading out of the town. Crowds made their way to this point. It was the returning mob with their victim.

Shouts Rent Air

Shouts and cries rang upon the air. The human jackals darted hither and thither, striking and jeering at the poor lad. It could be readily seen that he considered his case hopeless, for upon his face was a look of stolid indifference. He seemed to have no concern in what was going on. He was indeed a pitiful sight. His face and head were one great bruise, where the bloodthirsty members of the mob had beaten him on the way to town.

His bare feet were cut and bruised, while his clothing hung in tatters upon his body. He was in a weakened condition, both from fatigue and from the effects of the many blows administered to him on the journey.

The ribald and cowardly throng acclaimed his arrival with loud cheering. From the point where the crowds met the "body guard," on through the streets of Kirvin, many more joined in the procession, until when they at last arrived at the place where he was to be punished for a crime of which he was innocent, the crowd numbered over two thousand persons.

These mingled with the groups already present. The fact that all this happened in the morning in open daylight, put one in the mind of a carnival season. More so, when you will remember that the entire populace was present and all of them dressed in their best finery.

No effort was made at secrecy.

Everyone, young, middle-aged and old, took part in the savage festivity. Occupying prominent places in the front rank of the sightseers were some of the town's leading physicians, lawyers and judges. Policemen threaded their way in and out of the motley throng, preserving order.

What a horrible travesty!

Southern "Chivalry"

Southern white "gentlemen" remembered their vaunted and much-boasted "southern chivalry" and stepped aside and made places for the female members of the mob and placed them where they could see everything that went on with no trouble.

The arrival of the "bodyguard" was the signal for feverish excitement. Couriers were sent here and there upon missions by the ring leaders.

Men were delegated to attend to the assembling of all the major and minor properties to be used in the "performance." Two or three were set to the task of carrying the oil to the scene which was to be used to set the poor boy's body aflame. Others busied themselves fashioning a sort of elevated funeral pyre, from several sets of old discarded bed springs.

Policemen cleared a space in the form of a square measuring about a hundred feet on each side, where these men could work. They went about their task with precision. About ten sets of springs were carted to the scene and as they were dumped out upon the ground these men carried them to the cleared space and immediately set to work with them.

Ah, in truth it was a veritable Golgotha.

There, under the glaring rays of the morning sun, fifteen feet in the air the stake reared majestically, frowning down upon the assembled multitude. A little to the left of it a knot of heavily armed men were reclining, in whose center was the unfortunate lad, Curry. Directly in front of the accursed Pillar of Atrocity, another group of men were busily engaged in making the pyre ready. Surrounding all this was the vast multitude, looking on with interest at the happenings.

Especially were they interested in the doings of the altar-builders. These men took a set of springs, and after filling the interstices with bits of cloth, paper and kindling, placed it at the foot of the stake, over a shallow hole, dug to prevent the oil from running out into the crowd. Each set of springs was given the same treatment and piled one on top of the other, with a layer of finely cut pine kindlings between each set of springs.

Finish Their Work

When they had finished their work all was in readiness.

Curry was pulled to his feet. Two of the ring-leaders of the diabolic, infernal assemblage mounted the pyre and began to make the chains ready.

The multitude, which heretofore had been noisily enjoying themselves, now became curiously silent. All eyes were turned upon the two men working at the chains attached to the stake.

Windows of the buildings, fronting the scene, were filled to capacity.

Dragging Curry to the foot of the "altar," his "special guard" bound him securely, using for this purpose, lengths of fine, steel, piano wire. His hands and feet were bound with this so tightly that the poor boy winced several times during the operation.

Trussed like a turkey, he was handed up to the men on the satanic shrine, who began to chain him to the stake.

Owing to the silence which had now come over the people, the rattling of the chains by these men had a different sound than would have otherwise been expected.

These head executioners, or head idolaters, whichever you will, went about their appointed task in a business-like manner. They could have been no more precise, if they had practiced their parts for weeks. They were letter perfect. They uttered not a sound, but calmly and indifferently did their work.

They passed several feet of the chain around the body of Curry and also around the stake, of the upper part of his body was thus bound, from his arm-pits to his waist. The last of the chain was passed through a ring and padlocked with an extra large and heavy lock.

Cut Clothing Off

Then with knives, these men proceeded to strip the clothing from their victim. After a time they finished and stepped down.

What a spectacle!

Could the scene at Calvary have been any worse!

Leashed to a post in chains, elevated in the air, in the bright beams of the morning sun, the direct object of the gaze of more than two thousand pairs of eyes, was the human sacrifice.

Stark naked, bare as the back of one's hand.

Did the "flower of Texas womanhood" blush for shame? No! Not so it could be noticed. These pampered, "pure," "modest," "decent," "decorous ladies" seemed to be in a state of intoxication. Drunk with a blood-lust, which hardened them and made them loose, coarse and shameless.

Before setting the fire the mob indulged itself in imposing the most horrid mutilations upon the body of the wretched man.

Long poles were secured, to one end of which sharp knives were fastened. These served as impromptu spears. His ears were clipped off. His nose was cut off. His eyes were gouged out. His feet and legs were cruelly mangled. Not an independent organ of the sacrifice's body was left untouched.

Barbarity was at its worst. Savage brutality ruled the day. Here was a very striking example of "man's inhumanity to man."

During all this time the crowd had been silent. It was as if the scenes they were observing were some sort of ceremonial. There was not even in evidence that well-known, good-natured camaraderie usually indulged in by a great throng. Nothing was to be heard save the moans of the cruelly maltreated wretch before them. Even the atmosphere seemed to be different. Black sorcery, enchantment, and bedevilment seemed to have cast a spell upon all.

Altar of Sacrifice

Soon the four or five men armed with the crudely fashioned spears seemed to lose their zest for cutting, stabbing and gouging their defenseless victim. A signal was called, the organs of which was that the cruel inhuman brutes who had a short time before fixed the chains were called to mount the improvised altar of sacrifice, where several five-gallon cans of oil were passed up to them.

This they poured over the mutilated lad.

Can after can was drenched over him, running on down through the springs, saturating the cloth, bits of paper, and the layers of pine kindling with which it was packed.

In the meantime, Mose Jones and Johnny Cornish, friends of Curry's, came to the scene, hoping to save him. They were hurried through the mob to Old Man King, to whom they attempted to tell their story of the whereabouts of their poor friend on the fatal day of the killing.

This consideration and kindliness cost them their lives. Instead of these men being listened to, they were grabbed and held firmly by members of the mob and were told that "Just as soon as we finish with this here nigger there are two more going up in smoke."

On with the dance.

A lighted pine torch was handed to Old Man King, for to him was given the privilege of lighting the fire. To him was given the right to destroy a human life.

The multitude then began to manifest great excitement. It seemed as if the sight of the tiny flame of the

(Continued on Page 20, Column 1)

Before these Southern sacrifices men's bodies are stripped of their clothing while men, women and children look on unabashed. These knights of the South have no quibbles about showing their women and children the nude bodies of these victims, and these members of the family have no shame in viewing them.

Dear Mr. Senator:

This is to inform you that I, an American citizen, one of those who pay and sanction your salary, have a service for you to perform. You must support the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, or I shall refuse to support you, no matter how commendable your record may be in other respects or what YOUR beliefs or excuses may be. That is the service.

Yours very sincerely,

Name .....

City, Town or P. O. .....

State .....

Name of Senator .....

(Cut out the above coupon and mail to the Lynching Protest Editor, Chicago Defender, 3435 Indiana avenue, Chicago, Ill. Don't delay. It will be put in the hands of your senator.)

Girls Laugh as Victims Die in Fire

Burn Three, Lynch Two and Look for More to Sate Passion

(Continued From Page 15)

torch had broken the spell of silence and a low murmur could now be heard.

Granddad Applies Torch

Old Man King, the grandfather of the slain girl, stepped forward, flanked on either side by a clergyman. Stopping just a few feet from the stake, the clergymen knelt and indulged in mock prayers for the dying, in which they, instead of commending the unfortunate lad's spirit to the Maker from which it had sprung, called down curses and imprecations upon his head.

This from intelligent, clear-thinking men of God.

Preachers of God's gospel; ministers unto the faltering. Can anything more inconceivable be imagined? It would seem that the religious affection borne by these men for a soul about to take its flight, would have at least compelled them to call upon Him whom they served, or rather pretended to serve, praying that this poor soul be ushered into the kingdom.

This new kink in the proceedings was enough to make one's hair stand on end. It was unexpected, unheard of. Nothing had ever been thought of in this connection before.

After the prayers had been completed Old Man King lifted his torch and with a deep obeisance touched it to the oil-soaked kindling. The low, deep murmur continued, and with the setting off of the fire it began to increase in volume until when the flames leaped up into the air, it became one great shout which rocked the buildings in the vicinity.

Then did the southerners show their savagery. Then it was that they showed the signs of a flareback to cannibalism. The women were as bad as the men, shouting and imploring the flames to consume the victim.

All Over

The writhings of the wretched man were seemingly very enjoyable to the vast crowd and they shouted their approval lustily.

It could not last forever, and finally it was all over.

Another victim of Prejudice and Cowardice had been added to the already large toll gathered in the South since the war.

Preparations were then made by the bloodthirsty mob to wreak vengeance upon the two friends of their late victim, Jones and Cornish. Practically the same procedure was gone through, and they, too, paid the penalty.

After the lynching the mob went on a rampage. No man whose face was black escaped their fury. The sight of that first blood seemed to have enraged them. That afternoon another friend of the boy whom they burned to death was found hanging to a tree near the outskirts of the town. His name was Shadrach Green.

Yet these men are known to be innocent of the crime for which they were hanged and burned to death. They must be sacrificed to save the guilty parties who were white, sacrificed to permit the brutal, savage southerner to satisfy his blood-lust.

How long will these things be permitted to happen? How long, how long?

Lynchings — 1922 Individuals 974

Discussions.

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE
MAY 21, 1922

THE MOBS THAT DISGRACE AMERICA.

On Thursday a 15-year-old negro boy who had murdered a woman mail carrier was lynched at Davidsboro, Ga., with refinements of savagery. The victim was tortured for 15 minutes with a slow fire, after which he was released from the stake and questioned. Then he was tied again to a tree and cremated while the mob fired more than 200 bullets into his body. Within 24 hours Arkansas was the scene of a frightful exhibition of mob violence, even though the mob did not so successfully shame the savages of old as the Georgia mob did. At Texarkana a negro chauffeur who had brutally slain a policeman was dragged from jail at the end of a rope and shot to death. But the fury of the mob was not satisfied with the victim's death. The body was consigned to flames and burned to a crisp. Surely there could have been no doubt or difficulty about the quick execution of this Texarkana murderer at the hands of the law. When more than death is inflicted upon a murderer the bulwarks of civilization are torn down and the community that is the scene of such a thing is plunged back into the dark ages of torture and those "cruel and unusual punishments" that the constitution of this country so solemnly forbids. Texarkana's disgrace is the disgrace of Arkansas and Arkansas's disgrace is the disgrace of America. And this disgrace calls for quick and determined action. The sheriff saw and was roughly handled by the mob that surged around the jail at Texarkana. If nobody pays the penalty for this mob murder the civic shame will be all the greater for Texarkana and for Arkansas.

These Georgia and Arkansas mobs have armed anew all the forces that hold bitterness and hostility for the South; and they have confirmed in their violent prejudices many people North of the Mason and Dixon line who have been misled into misjudging the South. New difficulties have been raised for all Southern men in Congress and out, who have co[illegible]ed it their privilege to use their b[illegible] of forts to save the South from federal anti-lynching legislation and to vindicate the good name of the real and true South, the South of law-abiding American citizens. These recent lynchings are therefore not merely the affairs of the communities or states where they occurred. They deeply touch the South as a whole and the South as a whole is righteously resentful of the injury.

BROOKLYN N Y TIMES
MAY 19, 1922

NEGROES PROTEST GEORGIA LYNCHING

Mass Meeting Called for Monday Night by Brooklyn Branch of National Association.

The burning of a fifteen-year-old negro boy at the stake in Davidsboro, Georgia, last night, has aroused the colored population of Brooklyn, and a protest meeting under the auspices of the Brooklyn Branch of the National Association for the Advance of Colored People, has been called for Monday night in the Fleet Street African M. E. Church.

Throughout the Hudson avenue negro district, residents today are indignantly discussing the Georgia incident. Mrs. Maria C. Lawton, of 173 Willoughby street, wife of the Rev. Dr. William P. Lawton, founder and pastor of the Rendall Presbyterian Church, Harlem, is president of the Brooklyn Branch.

"The meeting is the outcome of the lynching," she said today. "We wish to arouse our people and bring them to realize conditions in the South. We want to bring into our organization those people of the South, who have recently come North. We do not countenance lawlessness and our meeting and our protests will be orderly.

"We feel keenly the failure of the Federal Government to take steps to wipe out lynching and feel that our race is entitled to some recognition, especially after the part colored boys took in the world war. This is the most uncivilized country I know of in the treatment of colored people."

Leaders among the colored people of the borough have been asked to address the meeting. Among them are Dr. O. M. Waller, the Rev. W. C. Brown, of Fleet street church; the Rev. A. C. Matthews, pastor of Berean Baptist Church, and the Rev. H. H. Proctor, pastor of Nazarene Congregational Church.

NEW YORK HERALD
JUNE 10 1922

ATTACKS LYNCHING FIGURES.

Georgia's Governor Says Tuskegee Records Are Misleading.

SAVANNAH, June 9.—Gov. Thomas W. Hardwick, in an address before the annual convention of the County Officers Association of Georgia, to-day defended the lynching record of the State as compared to those of other States.

"At the Tuskegee Institute," said the Governor, "they send out figures showing that Georgia leads in lynching. This is not true. These figures charge up to Georgia killings made by officers in defense of themselves or the law."

N Y C TIMES
JUNE 10, 1922

DENIES LYNCHING RECORD.

Georgia's Governor Says Figures Include Killings by Officers.

SAVANNAH, Ga., June 9.—Thomas W. Hardwick, Governor of Georgia, in an address before the annual convention of the Court Officers' Association of Georgia today, defended the lynching record of the State as compared to those of other States.

"At the Tuskegee Institute," said the Governor, "they send out figures showing that Georgia leads in lynching. This is not true. These figures charge up to Georgia killings made by officers in defense of themselves or the law."

SEEKING JJUSTIFICATION.

In the Greenville *News* of a week ago we found a South Carolina editor seeking to palliate the crime of lynching by quoting an article by Samuel Hopkins Adams in *Leslie's* entitled "Two Lynchings." In this article Mr. Adams compared the lynching of three Negroes by a Texas mob with a case in New York, where a young man shot a former friend to death because, he alleged, the victim had beaten the slayer's mother. The editor of the *News* takes comfort from Mr. Adams' declaration that "rightly estimated that verdict constitutes a graver menace to law and order than the action of any mob that ever hanged or burned a Negro. It was considered and deliberate and it strikes at the very root of justice. In comparison, New York makes a sorrier showing than Texas."

The South Carolina editor goes on to amplify Mr. Adams' excuse for the South, in the following fashion:

Here is an interesting thought, surely. The South has been upbraided throughout the rest of the country for its lynchings, and of course, they are a blot upon our section. But it is an even greater thing when men, or women, take the law in their own hands, with no effort to conceal their identity, and, are given full freedom and the approval of the jurors who sit on the case. Such occurrences, unfortunately, are not confined to any one section. The burden of responsi-Ability, in suh cases, rests almost entirely upon the juries. Do our juries, the country over, realize this great responsibility? Some instances would indicate that they do not. And jurors are generally composed of our average citizens. They reflect, as a rule, the attitude and point of view of "the man in the street." The logical deduction is that we need to have instilled into all our people a new sense of the responsibilities of the citizenship as a whole to put down crime and do away with what appears to be in many instances, a sort of tolerant indifference toward the criminal acts of our fellows.

In their anxiety to justify the lynching of Negroes by Southern mobs, both Mr. Adams and the editor of the *News* seem to overlook the fact that the socalled private lynching in New York was followed by the arrest of the criminal and his trial by jury. If the result was a miscarriage of justice, the responsibility was upon the twelve men who composed the jury. But who ever heard of a jury having a chance to try a member of a lynching mob in Texas, or South Carolina either?

The comparison is strained.

OKLAHOMA CITY OKLA TIMES
MAY 31, 1922

Two Lynchings.

One was public; the other private. In Texas a mob took the law into its own hands and ferociously slaughtered three negroes, without giving them a chance to prove their innocence. In New York City a young man took the law into his own hands and, deliberately seeking out a former friend, shot him to death because, he alleged, the victim had beaten the slayer's mother. No opportunity was afforded the accused of defending or exonerating himself; he was tried, found guilty, and executed by lynch law applied at the hands of an individual who set himself, for the purposes of vengeance, above the law of the land. Thus far there is little to choose between the two lynchings. But here a divergence appears. The Texas murderers are at large; it is doubtful whether any real effort will be made to bring them to justice. The New York slayer was tried before a typical sob jury and acquitted in a scene of sickening sentimentalism. Rightly estimated that verdict constitutes a graver menace to law and order than the action of any mob that ever hanged or burned a negro. It considered and deliberate and it strikes at the very root of justice. In the comparison New York makes a sorrier showing than Texas.—Samuel Hopkins Adams, in Leslie's Weekly.

BOSTON MASS HERALD
APRIL 23, 1922

974

RAPS EDUCATED FOR LYNCHINGS

Moorfield Storey Lays Continuance of the Crime to Them

SHOULD LEAD PUBLIC OPINION TO STOP IT

Moorfield Storey, speaking yesterday afternoon before the Twentieth Century Club, arraigned "educated and responsible people all over the country" for their silence in the matter of lynching.

He began with an account of the changes sought by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"If Cap Fits, Put It on"

Then he gave examples of the apathy shown toward "lynch law" crimes and said:

"The fault lies with people like those I am now addressing—with educated and responsible people all over the country. I therefore arraign all of you for the fact that you have not lifted your voices on the subject. Those of you know what a cap is can have it, and if it fits, you can put it on. It fits almost every head in the country, and I have no doubt that it fits here. The main thing that will stop lynching is public opinion, and you are just as competent as any other to create and form public opinion on the subject. The duty rests on you."

After saying this Mr. Storey read from a southern paper two stories of lynching, in one of which the crime was accompanied by torture with red-hot irons, the public square being crowded, for the occasion, with women and children present.

"What do you suppose," he asked, "is to be the future of a community when women and children are brought to view such things? When the men who do such things are regarded as heroes, what do you suppose is going to happen to the population of the United States? The question is whether this is to go on indefinitely, with the people of the United States standing by and holding their tongues.

"The Association for the Advancement of Colored People was formed to stop such crimes and help the negroes to help themselves—to educate them and to defend their rights. On which side of the question will you stand? This

thing, remember, has happened in Washington, under the shadow of the capitol; it has happened in the home of Lincoln; we have it in Minneapolis and in Atlantic—in fact, all over the country.

"It is a disease which is spreading, and which will continue to spread until we are men enough to say that it must stop. What I want to know, after bringing these things before you, is whether you can continue to sleep in your beds, doing nothing to stop these abuses"

Only Drop in the Bucket

In the earlier part of his address the speaker drew an impressive picture of the disabilities, industrial, educational and political, which had been fastened on the negro even since emancipation days.

"True it is," he said, "that people in the North have been building up institutions like those at Tuskegee and Atlanta; other institutions in the South also depend on northern support. But all that is merely a drop in the bucket. What the negroes need is the education which is given to the boys among whom they live. They need just as good an education as the whites; indeed they need education all the more, for they have to struggle against prejudice.

"Especially do the colored people need the vote, and they need it in order to make themselves felt in the government of the country under which they live. We ought to help them to secure an education, to give them the ballot, to ensure their rights to life, liberty and property, and to protect them against the violence of the mob, which is a disgrace to civilization."

Following Mr. Storey, James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the association, gave an account of its work and bespoke support for the anti-lynching bill now in charge of the judiciary committee of the Senate after having passed the House. He called lynching a peril that menaced, not only the negroes, but the whole country. For the sake of the country's good name abroad also he made his appeal.

The Rev. Charles F. Dole, former president of the club and a member of the association, urged that in addition to law enforcement the humanities, including persuasion and conference should be brought in for the solution of the problem. One of his suggestions was that there should be no silence on the subject when southerners came on visits to the North.

W. F. C. GLOBE
JUNE 14, 1922

Says Mob Rule Hurts Whites and Negroes Equally

Work of the Association for Advancement of Colored People Explained.

Editor Globe:—For twelve years a group of Americans, white and colored, has been fighting the lynching mob in America, striving for those principles essential to the well-being of their country: tolerance and fair play. Beginning as a small committee, that group, now known as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has spread over the United States until it numbers nearly 100,000 members and more than 350 branches.

In fighting for the Negro and the Negro's opportunity in America the association feels it is fighting to relieve white America of brutality and intolerance. When a black human being is burned alive at the stake every white person who participates in that horror is brutalized. Every white child who witnesses such a scene is to that degree released from the restraints of civilization. Mobs breed mobs. At the last, it is not the Negro alone that suffers but the very foundations of government, of culture and decent human intercourse.

Sixty-four Women Lynched.

In thirty-five years 3,443 persons have been lynched in the United States, sixty-four of them being women. Among the women lynched eleven were white. It is frequently stated that there is only one cause —"the usual crime"—that occasions mob murder. That is obviously untrue in the case of the sixty-four women murdered. Furthermore, less than 17 per cent. of the 3,443 known victims of mobs in the United States have even been accused of "the usual crime"—rape. In fact, it is rather the unusual crime than the usual one. Not a half-dozen real attempts have been made to apprehend and punish lynchers in all this time.

Part of the fight against lynching in America has been the firm establishment of facts like these. The Advancement Association's investigators, often at risk to their lives, have gone into lynching communities and dug up the oppression underlying acts of mob violence. The association established beyond doubt the existence of peonage or debt slavery in Arkansas at the time of the riots in 1919. Governor Dorsey's pamphlet of last year, reciting 135 unpunished cases of murderous brutality in Georgia against colored people, went far to establish our case for that part of the country.

Fight Mob Spirit.

The association does not enjoy obtaining or spreading such facts. It believes, however, that Americans must know and face these facts if the country is to be saved from the mob. The dangerous growth of the mob spirit is reflected in warning editorials published in the best white newspapers of the south, decrying the increase of kidnappings, floggings, and intimidation by bands of masked men and directed not only against Negroes but against white men. The recent kidnapping and flogging of a health officer in Birmingham, Ala., is one of the latest of such incidents to stir the country.

It is on the basis of the work we have done that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has been urging the enactment by the Senate of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, which was passed by the House last January. The association believes not only that prosecution of mobbists must be undertaken by the federal government, it believes also that the enactment of a federal law directed against lynch law will serve notice on the mob in America that no community in the confines of the United States is immune to the guarantees of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness promulgated in the constitution.

A Week of Conferences.

The culmination of this fight against lynching comes in the week of June 18 to 23, when the association will hold a week of conferences in Newark. Governor Edwards and Senator Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, Representative Madden of Illinois, Mr. Moorfield Storey, former president of the American Bar Association, will all review the parade through the streets of Newark and speak at the opening meeting. The list of speakers at the conference will testify to the intensity of interest that has been aroused in this fight against the mob and mob spirit conducted by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In conclusion, may I take this opportunity of inviting such of the readers of The Globe as may be interested to visit the Newark conference at any one of the meetings. Information concerning the programme and subjects to be discussed may be had from the association's headquarters, 70 Fifth avenue, New York.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON.
Former U. S. consul to Nicaragua; secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
New York, June 1[illegible]

SUFFALO N Y NEWS
MAY 27, 1922

SENTIMENT AGAINST LYNCHING GROWING IN SOUTH, SAYS BAGNELL

Association for Advancement of Colored People Is Conducting Campaign to Arouse Support for Dyer Bill in Senate.

Public sentiment against lynching negroes in the Southern states is beginning to crystalize, Robert W. Bagnall of New York city, director of branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, declared at the First Shiloh Baptist church, South Division and Cedar streets. The association, said Mr. Bagnall, is now conducting an intensive campaign through its 430 branches in 44 states to arouse support for the Dyer anti-lynching bill now before the senate.

The assertion by many political leaders at Washington that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional, Mr. Bagnall believes, will not stand. Briefs arguing the constitutionality of the bill, he said, have been prepared by Morefield Storie, former president of the International Bar association, by former Attorney General Wickersham and by Assistant Attorney General Goof. These briefs will be submitted in a few days.

"If the bill does not pass in the senate," said Mr. Bagnall, "I fear it may be taken as a license to lynch even more extensively than at present."

Hopes "Anarchy" Will End.

Mr. Bagnall mentioned the memorial presented to congress recently by Senator Lodge which expressed the hope that "this anarchy might be ended and America rid of its disgrace."

"America is the only country in the world," Mr. Bagnall asserted, "where human beings are burned alive. It is terrible to think such things happen in so civilized a land. The anti-lynching law will not succeed until it is backed by public opinion, but I do believe we are at last getting the public to see things in the true light.

"Lynching is really anarcy, for it is mob rule which takes over the function of the state in administering justice. And in such a case the federal government can, and I hope will, interfere.

"The teeth of the Dyer anti-lynching bill," said Mr. Bagnall," lie in the clause which provides that a fine of $10,000 be imposed on the county in which the lynching occurs. This, I think, will accomplish the purpose of the bill, for the landowners who will have to pay will be more inclined to allow the law to take its course. Even in the courts the chances are the negro will not escape, certainly not if he is guilty."

In addition to outlining the work of the national campaign against lynching, Mr. Bagnall told of the work of the association in combatting the Ku Klux Klan.

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People," he declared, "is trying to effect a better understanding between the races of the world. This is contrary to the policies of the Ku Klux Klan.

"It was our association which discovered that the klan, though preaching 100 per cent. Americanism, was in reality an anti-Catholic, anti-labor, anti-Jewish and anti-negro organization. Much of the data gathered by the association was used in the recent expose of the Ku Klux Klan by the New York World.

Mr. Bagnall also told of the work of the association in supplying legal defense for negroes, citing the Bullock case as an example. He said much was being done also to better the employment conditions of the negroes.

"News" Prints Sixth Building Design

The sixth of a series of home building suggestions published in the NEWS is printed in this issue. The home is one with individuality and has many unique features which add greatly to the comfort of a home. Look over the drawings carefully for new ideas in planning a dwelling. The plans were made by Albert Hart Hopkins, architect at 415 Main street.

PHILA PA PUBLIC LEDGER
JUNE 26, 1922

STAY THE LYNCHER'S HAND

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—The demands for justice in the South seem to exceed those in the North. Instead of a trial, an infuriated mob outwits the law and brutally commits a murder excelling that of the prisoner. A recent lynching was that of a Negro child, slowly roasted over a fire, to compel him to disclose the names of others implicated in the murder of a young woman for robbery. How many murders are committed in the North for the same purpose by not only colored but white men, whose capture leads to either imprisonment for life or the electric chair, but not a punishment of barbarous brutality? There must be some hand that can stay the lynchers.

ARMITAGE T. LIVINGSTON.
Morristown, N. J., June 21, 1922.

Lynchings - 1922. Discussions. Individual

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WASHINGTON D. C. STAR
JUNE 18, 1922

Urges That Lynching in South Be Stopped by Southern Whites

To the Editor of The Star:

The ravening mobs of Georgia and Texas, the closing the door of conscience in the breasts of those in authority, the damming of the stream of mercy that should flow always and ever in the life of every civilized man in this Christian country make the black man again knock at the door of a white man's justice. There is nowhere else for the southern negro to go. How futile to look to any other part of the country to superimpose a government upon the actions of the south, when it has its own self-imposed laws. If men who make solemn oath to support the laws which they in their sovereign power have written will not enforce them, how can we expect any other influence to exercise any control? And so it is to the conscience of the south we appeal once again.

Every negro in America feels more deeply than he should be made to share the humiliation which one crime and one criminal can bring to the race. But I submit that with no laws of our own with which to punish, no officers to run down criminals and no courts in which to try out outlaws and derelicts, it is asking much of us to make impossible such crimes as Texas and Georgia have so lately committeed, by removing the cause. When a black man murders or outrages he serves no notice on the leaders of his race. They know nothing of it until the crime is done and he has fallen into the hands of his white governors. And once there, by every condition of chivalry, the negro is entitled to the white man's protection. The law which invests the guiltiest with the presumption of innocence is the Anglo-Saxon's law.

I appeal again passionately to the Anglo-Saxon conscience. It is generally aroused easily and its possessor is generally fair. I appeal to the ministers and educators of my race to carry the negro's case to the white man's conscience, and I beg the ministers, the educators and the white leaders everywhere to assist us in arousing that conscience. Lynching must be stopped in the south and by southern white people. If it could be stopped by anybody else on God's great earth, the south would lose the moral victory to which a gain so great would entitle our people. This is our sectional sin for which there is no vicarious atonement. The south must stop its mob crimes or the mob will ruin the south.

Our civilization stands impeached in the courts of all the civilized world. Crimes which long since have been too horrible even for the heart of Central Africa are with impunity committed by thousands who claim the blessings of the most orthodox Christianity and the laws of the purest blooded patriotism. Communities which loudly asseverate their citizens' literal creation in the image of God, on mere suspicion against a black boy are transformed into beasts capable of conducting the most hideous orgies of torture and mutilation! Is it possible that our white friends cannot see that not only their integrity as a race is involved, but their faith in a pitying Christ is likewise imperiled? In the name of that Christ who sees and knows all and punishes all sin alike, I appeal for justice and mercy.

JAMES E. SHEPARD,
President National Training School,
Durham, N. C.

CHICAGO ILL NEWS
JUNE 16, 1922

TO STOP THE LYNCHING.

The mobs of Georgia and Texas are ravening. The stream of mercy that should flow always and ever is dammed. So the black man is again knocking at the door of the white man's justice. Nowhere else can the southern negro go. If men who make solemn oath to support the laws will not enforce them, how can we expect any other influence to control? And so it is to the conscience of the south that we appeal once again.

Every negro in America feels deeply the humiliation which one crime and one criminal can bring to the race. But I submit that when a black man murders or outrages, he serves no notice on the leaders of his race. They know nothing of it until the crime is done and he has fallen into the hands of his white governors. And once there, by every condition of chivalry, the negro is entitled to the white man's protection.

The law which invests the accused with the presumption of innocence is the Anglo-Saxon's law. I appeal again passionately to the Anglo-Saxon conscience. It is generally aroused easily and its possessor is generally fair. I appeal to the ministers and educators of my race to carry the negro's case to the white man's conscience, and I beg the ministers, the educators and the white leaders everywhere to assist us in arousing that conscience.

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JAMES E. SHEPARD,
President National Training School,
Durham, N. C.

N Y C TIMES
JULY 16, 1922

Lynchings in the South.

Federal prying into the affairs of the local Southern Governments will be very detrimental to the solution of the race problem. Men who are maddened by brutish crimes do not count the public cost. All the negro votes and Dyer bills from now till doomsday cannot prevent men avenging crimes against their mothers, wives and sisters. The negro is not blessed with the inhibitions of the passions that white men have gained by centuries of self-control. Lust, uncontrolled, causes rapes, and revenge causes lynchings. The white man has not evoluted so far that he can look on with judicial calm when his women are violated. * * *

JOHN S. TERRY.

BURLINGTON VT. FREE PRESS
JUNE 12, 1922

TWO LYNCHINGS

One was public; the other private. In Texas a mob took the law into its own hands and ferociously slaughtered three negroes, without giving them a chance to prove their innocence. In New York city a young man took the law into his own hands and, deliberately seeking out a former friend, shot him to death because, he alleged, the victim had beaten the slayer's mother. No opportunity was afforded the accused of defending or exonerating himself; he was tried, found guilty, and executed by lynch law applied at the hands of an individual who set himself, for the purposes of vengeance, above the law of the land. Thus far there is little to choose between the two lynchings. But here a divergence appears. The Texas murderers are at large; it is doubtful whether any real effort will be made to bring them to justice. The New York slayer was tried before a typical sob jury and acquitted in a scene of sickening sentimentalism. Rightly estimated that verdict constitutes a graver menace to law and order than the action of any mob that ever hanged or burned a negro. It was considered and deliberate and it strikes at the very root of justice. In the comparison New York makes a sorrier showing than Texas.—Samuel Hopkins Adams, in Leslie's Weekly.

LYNCHED MEN ARE MARTYRS

N.Y. American 7-12-22

Says Father Fitzpatrick, Priest of Plainfield, Who Saw Two Victims of Mobs in Oklahoma—Speaks at Y. M. C. A.

"Every man and woman who is lynched by mob violence in any section of the United States is as great a marytr as anyone who has died for a just cause," according to the opinion of Rev. F. N. Fitzpatrick, Priest in charge of St. Mark's Episcopal Mission, Plainfield, N. J., and who saw two men who had been lynched in Oklahoma City. In an address at the men's meeting in the Young Men's Christian Association Sunday afternoon from the subject, "The New Freedom," Father Fitzpatrick declared many times with great emphasis that as the proper interpretation of a martyr was a witness to something, he said that every man and woman who died at the hands of a frenzied mob was a witness to lawlessness tolerated, if not condoned, by the Federal Government and the individual sovereign states.

In his address, which he had carefully prepared, he declared without any apology whatsoever that no subjects of a country had ever come into full enjoyment of rights denied them without bloodshed. He was absolutely sure that the colored man in America must strike back when he is struck, although he admitted that he himself was somewhat puzzled as to just how this could best be done in view of the odds of 100,000,000 to 12,000,000. He called attention to the sacrifices of lives of the people of Germany, Russia, France, England, Belgium, Italy and the United States in the late World War, and the smaller nations like Servia and Roumania who were now enjoying a newer freedom through bloodshed. The speaker declared also that the Race needed no more cowards in the form of leaders. That they had a plenty and he was sure that enjoyment of the newer freedom for the colored brother and sister in this country could not be fully attained unless through a sacrifice of some kind.

He was also positive that peaceful agitation, speaking and preaching would not prevent lynchings and mob riots. These he asserted had been fully tried and proved to be failures. Father Fitzpatrick was at Tulsa, Okla., at the time of the great riot. He predicted that the courageous stand taken by colored men and women there was one of the greatest that ever happened in this country. The courageous fight also made in the race riots in Washington and Chicago are assurance against any further rioting in these parts.

Father Fitzpatrick has been offered the position of instructor in Greek and Latin at Claflin University, Orangeburg, S. C. He stated that in all probability he might accept.

TRENTON N J ADVERTISER
JULY 9, 1922

LESS EXCITEMENT WHEN BLACKS ARE MURDERED

Editor Sunday Times-Advertiser:

Dear Sir—Why all the noise about the Williamson County, Ill., mob rule anyway? Is it not the logical sequel of fifty years of unchecked mob rule in this country? If one section of the country can do it, and get away with it, why not another? Yet because twenty white men were sent over the same road which this same mob spirit has carved out for over 3,000 blacks during this time, the whole country is stirred to action. In this case the guilt must be established and the offenders punished.

In the southern town of Mexia, Tex., two Negroes were burned at the stake within the period of one week for a crime later confessed to by a fleeing white man, and the people of the country took it as a matter of course; but the lynchings at Herrin, Ill.—ah, those victims were white men. From the President on down, this outrage is denounced, and the righteousness of their indignation sweeps the entire country. But if, for some reason, it should be established that the victims of this savagery were black, the whole matter would sink into insignificance and it would require a high power telescope to locate a report of the affair in the daily papers.

And to think there still are men (?) in Congress who continue to oppose a bill designed to put an end to mob violence, primarily because it would deprive a section of the country of its barbecue parties.

C. S. H.

WORCESTER MASS POST
JULY 6, 1922

LYNCHINGS

Editor of The Evening Post:

The horrible activities of burning human beings alive does not seem to awaken much interest in the public mind, although the activities incidential to war did much to arouse indignation!

Have we become so callous and hardened that even now that we are celebrating our national independence that gave us one wonderful constitution.

Have we utterly forgotten that "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" are fundamental doctrines to all of our citizens?

Shall the United States Supreme Court annul and make void the principle our father's fought for and for the principles that the World War fought for—the principles of democracy!

Congress of the United States is neglecting a plain and obvious duty—a duty which if ignored must cause a deep suspicion and distrust among us!

CARRIE G. BARR.

PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC LEDGER
JUNE 29, 1922

ATROCITIES AT HOME

Let Us Clean Our Own Doorsteps Before Looking After Those of Our Neighbors

To the Editor of the Public Ledger:

Sir—My morning's mail contained a letter asking my presence at a mass-meeting in this city on Friday to protest against Turkish atrocities in the Near East, assuring me that the appalling massacres of Christians in Anatolia have shocked the conscience of the civilized world. We are asked to raise our voices against the horrible crimes which have been going on for so many years and which disgrace the Christian world.

In the name of the eternal verities, why should I be asked to protest against the so-called atrocities of the Turk 4000 miles away when in our own country colored people are lynched, soaked in oil and burned at the stake without the slightest indication on the part of Caucasian America that its conscience is shocked or that these hideous crimes are a disgrace to Christian civilization? Can Turkish atrocities parallel these, or is the tenderness of the American conscience susceptible to distance?

It would be well for those who are responsible for these mass-meetings to ascertain whether our doorstep is in immaculate condition before we attempt to clean the doorstep of our neighbor.

I will raise my voice against Turkish atrocities and ask justice for the Christian of the Near East, when Christian, civilized America raises its voice against lynching and demands justice and safety for the 12,000,000 people of the colored race within its borders. "A COLORED WOMAN."

Philadelphia, June 27, 1922.

Why Should South Uphold Lynching And Mob Violence?

Atlanta Independent 7-2-2

By Dr. H. R. Butler

There is an old story told of a colored brother who was put in jail for some simple violation of the local laws. He sent for a very able lawyer in the town and asked the lawyer to get him out of jail; the lawyer wanted to know what his client had done that caused him to be placed in jail. After the colored brother told his honor what had transpired between him and the law, the lawyer said, "Why, John, they cannot put you in jail for that;" to which John replied, "But, Colonel, I is in here." This is about the situation in which the colored people in this country are placed so far as lynching and mob violence is concerned. While the senate squabbles over the Dyer bill and does nothing and the State legislatures do less, we are being mobbed, lynched, burned and flayed.

I read an editorial in the Atlanta Georgian the other day in which it gave some reasons why the Dyer bill should not be passed. One of these reasons was, "that the United States Government should let the states handle and settle the matter," or words to that effect. That sounds good; but what are the actual facts? For more than fifty years lynching has been going on until there is hardly a state in which lynching has not been done, and not a single Southern state can boast of a clean record on the subject of lynching, and yet hardly a half dozen states have passed any laws against the crime of lynching, and not a single Southern state has passed any such law. After fifty years of crime at an increase every year, and no effort made to stop it, yet this able journal and many white ministers of the gospel say, let the states manage it. The government has given them over fifty years' management of it and what have they done? Nothing to stop it, but everything to prevent its being stopped.

Here are the figures from 1885 up to and including 1918: Whites lynched, 1,008; colored persons lynched, 2,881; total, 3,889. Many have been added to this sad roll which is disgracing our nation in all civilized and uncivilized countries, and yet some educated and some Christian people plead for it to continue. For the period of time named here Georgia led all other states in the crime of lynching with 398, and by this time her list will run far beyond 450, and yet our editors are pleading that the National Government do not stop the crime. Our senators and Congressmen fought and are still fighting the Dyer bill, which would put a stop to the crime of lynching, and yet are not bringing any force to bear upon the State legislatures to have them pass any laws to take the place of the Dyer bill. During all this delay the people of all races are being lynched. Some of these lynchings never find their way into the papers. On Friday night, July 14th, an old colored man was lynched at a little town in Southwest Georgia, and hung on a tree within sight of the railroad station until late Saturday evening. It was told to the passengers in the colored coach that the sheriff would not let any one take the body down. I do not know the truth of that statement, nor the reasons why he would not let the body be taken down. However, some time Saturday night it was taken down—after hanging there twenty-four hours. Two trains a day pass that place and although many people saw the man hanging there and know the cause for which he was said to have been lynched, yet I have not seen anything in any paper about it. It may have been, but I say I have not seen it.

Above I said that the United States Government had left this subject to the states and their officers until there was hardly a state in the union in which there had not been a lynching. Now, here are the facts: Out of our long list of forty-eight states only six can boast of a clean record of never being disgraced with a lynching, and these are Utah, Vermont, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island; and I must say this is a record to be proud of. Then here is another thing worthy of note: these are states in which there are no jim-crow laws; no segregation laws; no humiliation laws; no separate school laws; these are states where laws are made for all the people alike and not one law for one group and another law for another group. This is something worthy of remembering. Another thing worthy of note is that practically all the Congressmen and Senators from those five clean states are in favor of the passage of the Dyer bill, while those mostly opposing the bill are from the states guilty of the awful crime—I started to say barbarous crime, but barbarians have not yet reached the high state of civilization yet where they would lynch one of their fellow tribesmen.

The states that have led the world in the lynching record are, with Georgia heading the list: Virginia, Maryland, Kentucky, North Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama, South Carolina, Louisiana, Florida, Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri; and these are the states that have some of the meanest jim-crow and segregating laws that ever came from the brain of man. I wish to say to the lawmakers of the states that just laws will go a great way in preventing lynching and the causes that lead up to them.

There is another very unfortunate thing about this subject of lynching that our daily papers and Associated Press news distributors should take under advisement; and that is this: that while they broadcast to the world every little or large crime committed in the United States by the colored citizens and so little of the good things they are accomplishing for the government, the states and themselves, the Associated Press and dailies are ruining the reputation of the nation. Last summer, while abroad, every daily paper through the Associated Press had gathered every lynching, burning and all other crimes said to have been committed by some of our group and was printing them in all languages. While our group was being held up to the world as a race of criminals, the government was being also held up as a miserable failure for allowing such things as lynchings and burnings to go on without even a voice of protest from the President. One day in Rome, Italy, I was talking to some gentlemen about the wonders of my government and about the great resources of the several states, and incidentally let it drop that I was from Georgia, and one man held up his hands in horror and exclaimed, "Oh, they lynch and burn people there!" I tried to explain; but the Associated Press had ruined the name of the state by telling its story to the world, and there I stood, humiliated, in a foreign country. I suggested the other day to Mr. Emmett Scott that at the next meeting of our National Colored Newspaper Association that a strong committee be appointed to go to the National Association Editors of the great

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions

Individuals

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KANSAS CITY MO POST
APRIL 15, 1922

AVENGE MERELY EXCUSE FOR MOB LYNCHING NEGRO, SAYS SPEAKER

Three Reasons Given by Head of K. S. A. C. Journalism Department.

EXPLAINS THE REMEDY

Urges Education Regarding Mental Disease to Lessen Crime.

No mob lynches a Negro in order to avenge a crime upon a woman. That is merely an excuse, or what psychologists call a rationalization.

That was the statement of Nelson Antrim Crawford, head of the journalism department in the Kansas State Agricultural college, in discussing the newspaper's opportunity to educate the public to an understanding of the real basis of crime. Mr. Crawford spoke before the United States public health institute in Kansas City, Kas., Saturday afternoon.

Mobs lynch Negroes for three reasons, Mr. Crawford maintained. These are the reasons:

The mob has a morbid fear of Negro domination and in killing a Negro is symbolically exterminating the black race.

The members of the mob have a tendency toward sadism, that mental aberration which finds pleasure in the infliction of pain. This tendency is especially common among people of a low degree of culture.

The mob itself would like to commit the same crime for which it lynches the Negro. The inverted result shown in the lynching has been found frequently in various investigations of curious mental phenomena, such as that of the fanatical reformer. Dr. Freud, well known psychoanalyst, gives this explanation for many puzzling problems in psychology.

Education of the public to an understanding of mental disease would reduce lynchings and crimes of every sort, Mr. Crawford asserted. Most persons, he said, have some tendency to mental abnormality. If they recognize the tendency, they can keep it from manifesting itself in crime, vice and other anti-social activities.

The more serious mental abnormalities should be understood also and the victims examined and treated in childhood, the speaker declared.

The schools and the newspapers were characterized by Mr. Crawford as the principal sources from which the public can obtainenlightenment in this field. He urged the paying of as much attention to mental as to physical disease and the elimination of the popular idea that mental troubles are a disgrace to be hidden from public gaze.

Lynching---Its Cause and Cure

BY REV. C. M. LEDBETTER

Atlanta Ga. Constitution
April 4/22

Editor Constitution: The lynching subject has been discussed by all classes of people in all sections of the county in all sorts of ways. Indeed, it may be said of it as it was said of the woman in the Bible who came to be cured of an incurable disease, "It has suffered many things of many physicians and is nothing bettered." It might be thought by some that the last word has been said on this subject. But I for one, do not think so. It is verily true that most of what has been said in the papers and on the stump has done as much harm as good, if not more. To say the least that can be said there has been no preceptible improvement and the disease is progressing. For one to take any other side is to stamp him as a wrong-thinking man. I believe that everything that ought to be, can be. If this thing can be stopped there is a way to go about it, and it is the task of the present generation to find out the why of the breakdown of this part of our civilization.

At the outset of this discussion let us see if we can ascertain what are some of the radical defects in the past discussion. In the first place, I would point out the fact that it has been discussed almost entirely as a sectional, a racial, or a political issue. Primrily, it is neither, and we can never get anywhere discussing it as either of the three. Economic questions can be settled as political issues, but we settled the slavery question as a political issue and it proved a very costly project in blood and money. We tried to settle the prohibition issue in a political way and many good prohibitionist joined the prohibition party, but the friends of prohibtion soon realized that this would not do. When the Anti-Saloon league was organized as a non-partisan, non-denominational organization and flat-footedly refused to be drawn into any political party it showed great wisdom; whether you believe in prohibition or do not.

Not Race Question.

Now, very many of the northern papers have persisted in making the lynching question purely as a political, sectional, or racial issue and every word they have said along this line has only complicated matters. Most of the negro papers and preachers have discussed it as a race question, entirely, and they have made it worse every time they touched it. Most of the white people from the south have discussed it as a racial question, and they have muffed it up every time they have touched it in this way. I admit that political, racial, and sectional issues are involved; but we can never get anywhere looking at it and discussing it as such. The main features are moral and religious, and much more national than sectional, racial, or political. The north, in discussing the subject, has abused the whites of the south far more for lynching criminals than they have censured the negroes for the crimes that furnished excuse for lynching.

Do not let anyone think for a moment that I would entertain the opinion that any crime furnishes any sort of justification for lynching. There has never been a crime since Cain killed Abel that would justify it. I have used the expression "furnished the excuse for lynching" simply because people use the crime of rape as an excuse for lynching.

The negro papers and preachers have censured the white man a great deal more for lynching the negro rapist than they have censured the rapist. Then, the white man has retaliated by abusing the negro rapist so severely he has seemed to excuse lynching.

Let the northern papers and the negro papers and preachers spend more time discussing and censuring the criminals that furnish excuse for lynching and the southern man spend more time in trying to get the white man to see the awful sin of lynching and we will make more progress.

Abuse Vs. Criticism.

I might also add here that neither side abusing the other is calculated to get us anywhere. There is quite a difference between abuse and criticism. A real criticism is nonpersonal and impassionate, while abuse is noncritical and so full of passion as to blur the vision. I have seen very little criticism on the subject, but a superabundance of abuse. When any of us abuses the other party we simply make the other party mad and he begins to abuse back, and soon each side is abusing the other and excusing all the faults on his own side.

I say that the question of lynching is not a sectional question, but a national one. And yet I am bound to admit as a southern man that there is more lynching in the south than in the north, but it is but just to state that the provocations in the south are much greater than in he north. With the same provocations in the north as in the south, there would be just as much lynching there, and there is too much up there now, but that does not excuse us in the south.

I am aware there is more illiteracy in the south than in the north, but that is not involved as much as the average man would think. The illiterate man is not the only man who engages in lynching. The most of the illiterates indorse lynching for certain causes, I will admit. But there is a large class of literates who will defend lynching and engage in it. This class is mostly of the "peanut" politician variety, who exploit the passions of the people and fans them into a flame for political purpose, and to the shame of our country be it said some of these men are in high places. The illiterates and the semiliterates are easily used by this class of politician.

To advance a step, I wish to state onother fact—which is a true fact, though a large majority of our southern people hate to admit it and I hate to admit it—but I must keep before me the fact so well stated by Isaiah, "He that covereth his sin shall not prosper." Now, this regrettable fact is simply this: More than half of our people excuse or indorse lynching, most of them will not admit it when stated baldly as I have stated it, but it is the everlasting truth. As long as this is a fact we can never punish the lynchers. I am fully aware that most all of our newspapers, nearly all of our lawyers and preachers, will denounce lynching for any and every offense, but I know that a majority of our men will either indorse or excuse lynching under certain circumstances, and when one indorses or excuses it for one offense he has let down the bars and indorsed or excused the thing.

And we must admit that no fence is higher than its lowest place and no chain is stronger than its weakest link. If this thing were not true, as I have stated, we could punish some lynchers. Many men do not hesitate to swear to a lie to defend the lynchers, while many more are afraid to tell the truth for fear of retaliatory measures by the lynchers and sympathizers. I have known men to go on the stand and swear they did not recognize any of the lynchers when positively I know they did recognize them.

The Way Out.

But is there a way out of this terrible condition? Yes; but we must change public opinion till we thoroughly recognize the fact it needs changing. Look the facts squarely in the face and don't abuse the man who states them. The way most of us are doing is simply to abuse the fellow who states the focts when they are unpleasant.

But to the task of changing public opinion. We all must recognize that this must be done if we stop the evils complained of. Can it be done? I think it can. It is going to take time, thought, prayer, patience and money. Mr. John D. Rockefeller gave, I believe, $1,000,000 to help to stamp out hookworm in the south, and I am sure that it was well spent. I went over one whole county and helped the hookworm doctor, and even went so far as to make speeches on it. I remember in one little section where one whole family of nine members was on the charities of the people, and not a single one of the family could work enough to support himself, and in three or four weeks everyone was self-sustaining and could work all the time. No one knows the good that came of this money except those who interested themselves in the work. Now, if some rich man would invest some money in this work and go about it in a determined and systematic way, public opinion can be so changed in ten or fifteen years there will hardly be a case of lynching in the country. Has anyone thought a plan? I have thought out a plan that will work.

How would I go about it? I would go about it like it was done in eradicating the tick, only I would take the state as a unit rather than the county. I would start in my own state, Georgia, as Georgia has been heading the list in lynching for some years. I would appoint at the head of this bureau a southern man. I would put in his hands a sufficient sum of money to carry on this work. I would instruct him to go to every white college and university in the state and offer about three prizes for the first, second and best essay or speech on the prevention and cure of lynching. These speeches and essays should be delivered before public audiences, copies furnished the local newspapers, and also furnished this bureau. I would pick out two hundred leading high schools in the state and have prizes offered in these schools for the same kind of work. Then I would pick out some of the best of these speeches and essays, have them printed in book

form, furnish them to every paper in the state, every preacher in the state, every library in the state.

In this way we would soon create a first-class literature on this subject. These essays and speeches would engage the brains of from three to five thousand of the best young minds of the state, whose minds are yet open for the formation of correct opinion. In the minds of these there would be developed such a conscience as would touch the whole state. In all this reading and writing the question would be studied in an abstract way—and not with reference to any particular case. Is that the end? No. Each of the writers have from twenty to fifty relatives and friends who would become interested and take sides with those who write—then from 100,000 to 250,000 people would naturally take the right side of the question. Then think of the many thousands who would read parts of this discussion, at least, in the newspapers, and you begin to get some conception of the real outcome of this project.

Is there anything else? Yes. I would go to every negro school of any importance and offer prizes for the best essays and speeches on the questions: What can the negro do to stop lynching, and what can the negro do to bring about perfect co-operation between the whites and blacks in working out our problem

The Result.

Then it can be easily understood how in all the discussions the very best ideas would come to the surface. There would come out of this the fact that the negro who tries to take revenge on the white people for somehing the negro has suffered by the white people hurts his own race more than it hurts the white man. Then the white man would come to realize that whenever he oppresses the negro he hurts his own race far more than he hurts the negro race. That old heathen slave, Epictetus, said a great thing once when he said: "I am never a great sufferer except by my own faults." So it is true that no race is ever a great sufferer except from itself. The reaction on the negro race of the negro's crime against the whites is tremendous, and the reaction of the white man's mistreatment of the negro is of greater moment and injury to the white man that it is to the negro. These fundamenal principles must be burned into the conscience of the people until they are not only seen but realized.

An error can be put into the literature of the nation and read and reread by the people until it gets into the very life-blood and becomes a part of them. Whole nations have become corrupted in this way. The philosophy of the Germans, as false as it was, was taught in the schools and [illegible] in their papers and even preach[illegible] in their pulpits, until the whole nation was permeated with the poison. The defeat on the battlefield did no get it out; it will take almost a generation to do it. If error can get into people this way, how much more can the truth? The plan here indicated can be followed, expanded, enlarged until it percolates into every hamlet and village, and mine, and the errors of the whites and blacks on this subject of lawlessness can be eradicated.

The plan here indicated is practical and can be worked out so that in ten or fifteen years lynchings and the crimes that cause lynching can be practically stopped. If some big rich man in the north or south or a combination of them will start a bureau on this line it would do a great good. The man who is at the head of this bureau should be required to keep busy gathering data and following up this work at all times. He should visit schools indicated, talk with professors and students, and address gatherings and courts, and in a general way get in touch with the newspapers of the country. I believe almost every first-class newspaper in the land would co-operate with this kind of a plan, and we would lift public opinion so high it would not tolerate lynching or the crimes that excuse it.

Methodist Church, Hawkinsville, Georgia.

SPRINGFIELD M MORN UNIO
MAY 21, 192[illegible]

REVERTING TO BARBARISM

Lynching Atrocities in the South Arouse Strong Protests.

To the Editor of The Union.

Sir: Texas seems to have outdone itself in its latest lynching atrocity. Nothing more brutal and barbarous could be conceived. Under the heading, "Barbarism Rampant," the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle presents the following accurate picture of the situation:

"Something of variety was added to mob rule in Texas when the body of a Negro, who had been shot and killed after he had been identified as having attacked a white woman, was taken from the morgue, dragged through the streets, partly burned in the public square, and then 'dragged through the Negro district, while men vied with one another in trying to obtain parts of it as souvenirs.'

"All this happened in Waco, the home town of Gov. Neff, twenty-four hours after he had issued a public denunciation of the 'increasing tendency toward mobocracy in Texas.'

"The word 'mobaracy' hardly meets the situation. The actual truth is that Texas, and other States of the South where similar atrocities are practiced, are reverting to barbarism. There is no civilized country in the world today, outside of the United States, where human beings are burned at the stake, and pieces of their bodies seized as 'souvenirs.'

"Lynching was not unknown before the Civil war. There was a nation-wide protest in 1837 over the burning of a Negro at the stake near St. Louis. The disorders in the South during the reconstruction period, followed by the reign of terror of the Ku Klux Klan, aggravated the evil.

"But while conditions in the Southern States in other respects were restored to normal two generations or more ago, the mob is still permitted to indulge in the most appalling atrocities in its dealings with the Negro. There have been some signs, in the last year or two, that public sentiment among some of the people of the South was becoming aroused in opposition to these outbreaks, but improvement in the general situation is slight.

"The late Col. Watterson, himself a Southerner, advocated legislation that would hold peace officers responsible for not holding the mobs in check. This idea has had some support in Georgia too. The South as a whole, however, regards the Negro as outside the law, and tolerates burnings and hangings and similar exhibitions of savagery as a necessary evil, without realizing that they are endangering the very foundations of the social order.

"The South has a problem in its colored population that is involved in difficulties and embarrassments, and undoubtedly to a greater extent than Northerners realize. But even the South ought to realize by this time that barbarism does not offer a solution of that problem; it aggravates it instead, besides bringing reproach on American civilization.

"The progress of the South always will be retarded until law and order are restored, and the punishment of criminals, no matter what their color, is left to the courts. The brutalizing effects of the present method are reacting disastrously on both races."

YORK STATER.

Springfield, May 30, 1922.

CHICAGO ILL NEWS
JUNE 22, 1922

AGAINST MOB LAW.

Since 1889 there have been 3,443 known mob murders, sixty-four of the victims being women. American mobs murdered sixty-four persons in 1921, of whom four were publicly burned at the stake. During the month of May, 1922, four colored men were lynched in Oklahoma, three of them being taken from the custody of the sheriff and burned alive at the stake, one at a time. Encouraged by the nonresistance of a national antimob law, there has been established a national secret, oath-bound organization, which presumes to arrogate to itself the duties of judge and jury, and to inflict cruel punishments, even death, upon its victims. To add insult to injury, the leaders plead their devotion to patriotism. Failure to prevent lynchings has shamed our country in the eyes of foreign nations and rendered ineffective protests against the massacre of Christians by Moslems, or of Jews by Christians. The United States senate could not devote its time to a better purpose than the taking up of the Dyer bill and adopting it and removing once for all this blot on our escutcheon.

Chicago. JULIUS T. LICHTER.

MOB DEEDS PRAISED BY LYNCHERS

Chicago Defender

Southerners Proud They Can Burn Men Without Law Raising Objection

7-22

—There is no situation which might arise, North or South, which could in any manner possibly justify the murders, by lynching, of men and women. This fact, however, is hard for a certain class of white people who in the blood-soaked area south of the Mason and Dixon line to understand, a fact plainly shown by two letters which appeared in "The Voice of the People," a column of comment carried in the editorial page of the Chicago Tribune. One of the letters, sent by a Texas lynchbilly, boasts of the fact that "we hang and burn Negroes down here," and the writer apparently figures that because a bunch of murderers broke loose in Illinois his kind in Texas should be ignored in their butcheries. He lies when he states that lynching is done for crimes against women, as it is shown that less than 3 per cent of these murders are perpetrated on that account, and some day the boasts of D. C. Earnest and his kind will "bounce back" in a manner which will startle the world. No race of people, no matter how passive, can be expected to allow such treatment indefinitely without physical protest, whether it be in Dallas, Tex., or elsewhere. It is safe to say that when it comes to crime against women those committed by white men against women of our Race outnumber the others a thousand to one.

The other letter, sent by a misguided jackass named W. B. Powell of Tavares, Fla., a lynchbilly who disgraces the newspaper profession by claiming to be "an old newspaper man," is a bit stronger, in parts, than the one first mentioned. He also spreads on the idea of "crime against women" as an incentive for the murders for which Florida carries a world of notoriety, and the ideas expressed by this "man" are a fair example of what sort of brutes hold forth in the South. White murderers on all sides, bred to hate from the cradle, stalk the streets waiting for a chance to apply the rope or torch on the slightest provocation. Further comment by us is not necessary. Read the letters for yourselves and THINK:

The Letters

Dallas, Tex., June 24.—If the Associated Press reports are to be believed the recent butchery of non-union men in Illinois, and the details connected therewith, rival anything which has come out of Russia, Armenia and Mexico.

If this government is to survive we must begin now to rid the country of cowardly office holders.

What will be done to punish the brutal union murderers? Not one damned thing.

When Grover Cleveland courageously sent the United States soldiers to Chicago many years ago to do what your cowardly state and city officials refused to do, that is, protect lives and property, he showed that he was not under domination of union labor; and that it is a pity that United States soldiers have not had control of every foot of the state of Illinois ever since.

We hang and burn Negroes down here for brutal crimes against our women, but there is no instance on record where there has been wholesale assassination of men whose only offense was working for a living without first providing themselves with union cards.

Has not the great state of Illinois reached the limit of disgrace? Will not its good citizens now and henceforth demand that its officials represent all of the people instead of just the unions and thugs?

D. C. Earnest.

Tavares, Fla., June 24.—As an old newspaper man I have resented the attacks of the Tribune against Florida and the South because some dirty niggers have been lynched for an unnamable crime against white women.

Again it has been brought home to Illinois that greater crimes are committed right in your back yard—and the race riots in your front yard are of recent date.

The lynchers of the South seldom, very seldom, get the wrong man, and for a crime against the most sacred thing known—woman; but at Herrin more lives were sacrificed in a more inhuman manner for simply trying to earn an honest living, and in a day, than has been charged against Florida in 20 years for lynching brutes.

I trust hereafter the Tribune will take more time correcting affairs of its own territory than in muddling with the Negro question in the South.

W. P. Powell.

Donalsonville, Ga., June 28.—When we people go back in our files and search out the many issues of your great paper in which appear articles of criticism of the South for allowing mob violence in connection with the Negro we can't help but think of your trouble of today. We read with horror an account of a coroner's jury of your great state rendering a verdict in favor of mob violence.

The time is ripe for the Chicago Tribune to get down on its knees and beg the South's pardon for the injustice done it through your columns.

We are sorry for you.

J. L. HARALSON.

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EPISCOPALS RAP ORDERS FOSTERING ALL INTOLERANCE

Atlanta Constitution 9-17-22

Mob Violence and Secret Organizations Which Encourage Religious or Racial Prejudice Condemned.

GEORGIANS SPONSORED TWO RESOLUTIONS

Adopted Resolution Scores the Organizations Which Capitalize Bigotry, Hatred and Intolerance.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Portland, Ore., September 16.—Sweeping denunciations of mob violence and of secret organizations which foster race and religious prejudice is made in a resolution unanimously adopted today by the house of deputies of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States in general convention.

The resolution, approved by a committee headed by the Rev. Dr. James R. Freeman, of Washington, D. C., called on the ministry of the church and school authorities to teach the sanction of law and government and appealed to officers of the law to uphold the law and suppress all forms of mob violence.

The resolutions as adopted were a combination of resolutions proposed by the Rev. C. B. Wilmer, of Atlanta, Ga., and the Rev. Dr. J. D. Wing, of Savannah, Ga

Traces Connection

After reciting that there has been an increase in violence through mob action, the resolutions continue: "There appears to be a very close and intimate connection between these acts of mob violence and the recent rapid growth of religious prejudices and racial apathy favored by certain elements in our country which, sometimes in name of patriotic Americanism, have capitalized bigotry, hatred and intolerance."

A resolution asking passage of laws regulating the marriage of diseased and defective persons was adopted by the house of deputies.

Hope that relation between the Eastern Orthodox church and the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States may be the foundation on which the unity of all churches of Christendom may be built was expressed by Meleties, patriarch of Constantinople, according to a report to the house of bishops today by Rev. Dr. William Chauncey Emhart, field director of the National foreign born American division of the Episcopal church. Dr. Emhart has just returned from the near esat.

Letter From East.

Dr. Emhart brought with him a letter from Meleties, addressed to the Protestant Episcopal church through the Archbishop of Canterbury, in which the Eastern Orthodox church head formally accepted the validity of Anglican orders and recognized the apostolic succession of the Protestant Episcopal church.

Doctor Emhart, who recently visited Chrysostomes, metropolitan of Smyrna, who was reported killed in Smyrna a few days ago, said in an interview that the Mohammaden revival "which is sweeping the near east and threatening Europe again as it did a thousand years ago, seems to be the result and not the cause of the onset of the Turks, who are making a drive to regain the political and territorial position lost during the last great war."

The house of bishops refused to accept the resignation of Bishop Logan H. Root, of Hankow, who had asked to be relieved of his jurisdiction in order to become head of the newly-organized national Christian Council of China.

Adopt Amendment.

The house of bishops, by a bare constitutional majority of 63 affirmative votes, adopted an amendment to the constitution of the church offered by Bishop C. P. Anderson, of Chocago, in effect, making it possible for Episcopal bishops to ordain clergymen of other denominations, the amendment requiring the promise of conformity to the doctrine and discipline of the Protestant Episcopal church only from those who are to officiate in the church. This amendment first was adopted at the general convention three years ago. Effectiveness of the amendment, however, will depend on changes in the canons relating to the concordat.

Bishop W. F. Nichols, of San Francisco, prevented the killing of an amendment to the constitution which would give women the right to sit in the house of deputies. The matter was left open for further discussion.

LYNCHING CRUSADERS IN OPEN CAMPAIGN

Christian Science Monitor

Buffalo, N. Y., Oct. 6.—With every colored minister in the city of Buffalo with the exception of two, one of whom was sick, at 7 a. m. Sunday morning, the first gun was fired in the Anti-Lynching Crusade at Buffalo, N. Y., Mrs. Helen Curtis, State Director, being present. 10/1/1922

Singers from all the choirs of the city occupied seats in the choir loft and under the direction of Leonard Sayres, choir master, sang the opening hymn, "O God Our Help in Ages Past, Our Hope in Years to Come." New York

Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, National Director, read the 90th psalm which was followed by prayer by Rev. Stansil of the church. The following ministers also prayed: Rev. Echols of Shilo Baptist Church, Rev. Durham of St. Luke's Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, Dr. Spencer Carpenter of Bethel A. M. E. Church, Rev. Hollis, M. E. Church, Rev. Jesse Nash, Michigan Avenue Baptist Church.

Mrs. Talbert introduced Mrs. Curtis, who in a very touching manner told of the beginning of the crusade and for what it stands.

Mrs. Carter, missionary of Baptist Association, also spoke and endorsed the movement. She is a Brooklyn woman.

Dr. Carpenter preached a sermon deploring the fact that the United States government seems unable to quell the vicious mobs and the United States Senate had gone to sleep without putting the bill upon the calendar. He told the audience that the women, who had never failed the men, would put the job over. "If you want anything done well, link up with the praying, thinking womanhood of the land and the hardest task will be done right."

The other ministers gave short talks, and the Rev. Pendleton of C. M. E. Church closed that part of the service by asking every man, woman and child in the house to drop to their knees and pray with him.

The massed choir then sang the national Negro anthem.

In the afternoon at the Christian Culture Congress the program was under the direction of Miss Amelia Anderson, president of the Buffalo branch of the N. A. A. C. P. By special request, Mrs. Curtis was invited to speak of her war work.

At night Mrs. Curtis spoke at Bethel A. M. E. Church at the request of Dr. Carpenter, pastor, and dwelt upon her work in Africa. He invited to Buffalo to address the forum, including Miss Eva Bowles of the Y. M. C. A. National Board and Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, president for life of the Douglass Home Memorial Association.

STILL SOWING THE WIND.

A few days ago another lynching was added to Georgia's already appalling record for the current year, and subsequently a white employee in a cotton mill at Bibb City, near Columbus, Ga., was dragged from his home, blindfolded, carried out into the country by a mob and flogged. Atlanta Constitution

All of this only goes to show that in permitting such brutal manifestations of the spirit of mob violence to continue, and the perpetrators to go "unwhipped of justice," Georgia is still sowing the wind—inevitably to reap the whirlwind later on!

According to the story told by the victim of the Bibb City flogging, a mob of men arrogated to itself the prerogatives of complaining witness, arresting officer, jury and magistrate; accused a Georgia citizen of "misconduct with a woman," took him into custody in the night time, and, under cover of darkness, administered brutal punishment.

The **people of Georgia can stop this sort of thing if they will,** simply by upholding the hands of the courts and seeing to it that jurors, sheriffs and prosecutors do their duty!

In an editorial on "Georgia's Lynching Epidemic," which we reproduce in another column of this page, The Springfield (Mass.) Republican truthfully said, with reference to a specific instance of lynching in this state, "if the names (of identified members of the lynching mob) are presented, if the grand jury finds a true bill, if the indicted men **are convicted,** and if they are given such sentences **as justice demands,** the best that could be done will have been done."

The judges of Georgia are doing their part in denouncing mob violence and, upon occasion, admonishing grand juries to find indictments against participants in mob demonstrations; and our grand juries are more and more manifesting a willingness to do their part toward upholding the law by following the charges of the judges.

Numerous indictments have been found against alleged mob members in Georgia within the last few months; but to date **there has not been a single conviction!**

It rests with the trial jurors **to do their part;** and **with public sentiment, to see that they do it!**

Our Springfield contemporary makes reference to the fact that the southern representatives in congress voted against the Dyer anti-lynching bill on the theory that lynching is a "local issue."

It may be a local issue, and it can be handled by local and state authorities; but, as certainly as day follows night, the time is coming when, if the local authorities and the people of the state do not put an end to lynching and mob law, it will become a **national issue** and **the federal government will assume jurisdiction** and do that which the state has failed to do!

ANOTHER TEXAS LYNCHING.

Freestone County, Tex., now has to answer for its third lynching in the last few months.

In the case of the shocking crime committed by the mob at Streetman the local and county authorities had every reason to expect a lynching. They knew what was in the air the moment the wild hunt for a Negro suspected of crime started. They should have known exactly what was coming when a Negro was captured. The mob was bent on murder. It did not want evidence. It made no difference that the prisoner was never identified by anybody as the man accused of attacking a white woman. The Sheriff and his party offered no resistance, and the Negro prisoner, innocent so far as all evidence goes, was seized and killed by the lynchers in the presence of 1,000 persons.

It is the usual story in such circumstances of the utter breakdown of the law, for which the Sheriff and other officers and the entire community were responsible. After this third outbreak in Freestone County, close on the heels of two others, what has Texas to say for itself?

Although the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was probably unconstitutional and would not have accomplished what its political promoters pretended, many persons will insist that, in justice to the Negro, measures of protection must be taken by the Federal Government. If the law commands no respect and mob murder is universally approved where a Negro's life is at stake, how is Texas or any other Southern State **to justify itself as a civilized Commonwealth?**

Certainly the demand for more outside interference and penalties will grow, not weaken, if outrages like this go unpunished.

"BY NEGRO AGITATORS AND NORTHERN POLITICIANS?"

Dallas Express—Dallas, Tex.

Read—in fourth column—the Birmingham Age-Herald's earnest reply to San Antonio Express' comment on Federal Court dealings with mob violence in Alabama:

11-25-22

Read this conclusion:

"The situation is deplorable, but a measure"—the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill—"fostered by Negro agitators and Northern politicians for vote-getting purposes, might prove a remedy worse than the disease it attempts to cure."

Like the Age-Herald, San Antonio Express prefers—infinitely, pridefully, incomparably—that the States smash the mob and crush the mob-spirit for themselves; always has preferred this; always will prefer it. But, far too many of the States seldom—some of them never—have done their constitutional, statutory, social, civilized, humanitarian, modern duty in the premises. And their welfare—moral, material, political—and their very civic cohesion depends upon their upholding the fundamental law and keeping public order. Mob "law" is none of these things; serves none of these essentials—but drags down and debauches and destroys them all. It bestializes the citizens and poisons the minds of the rising generation. Its anti-civic, anti-social, anti-moral—anarchical—contaminations go into the home and even into the public school.

In 1919, San Antonio Express labored with the Thirty-sixth Legislature for the enactment of an anti-lynching bill not unlike the Dyer measure; and also for the adoption of a resolution to submit a constitutional-amendment proposition that the lyncher—like the duelist and the political corruptionist—be disfranchised and debarred from Texas public office. Let it be repeated for the hundredth time—touching the Age-Herald's objections and preference on the score of State performance of a vital, tremendous State duty—that those State measures were not even reported out of committee after a favorable public hearing, thereon; although some of the strongest best known Senators and Representatives signed he resolution.

Not a single year since 1884 has seen Texas escape the lynching infamy. It has suffered as many as twenty-two lynchings in one year; but in only one year has it suffered lass than three. And this year, so far, it heads the lynching statistics for the second time since 1919. And not a single lynch-murderer among the fourteen mobs of 1922 has been executed, or sent to prison, or even fined for carrying a deadly weapon. Not a single State governmental investigation of these foul outrages against the State's own Bill of Rights, Constitution and statues!

"* * * a measure fostered by Negro agitators and Northern politicians for vote-getting purposes * * * "

On May 5 and 6, 1919, in New York City, the National Conference on Lynching conducted and concluded its deliberations. "The prevalence in many States of the spirit which tolerates lynching, accompanied too often with inhuman cruelty, and the inability or unwillingness of the public authorities to punish the persons who are guilty of this crime, threaten very seriously the future peace of the Nation," ran the country-wide call to the conference.

Out of that assembly came "An Address to the Nation:"

"The undersigned, as citizens of the United States without sectional or party bias, with the interest only of the Republic at heart, urge all public-spirited men and women to oppose with all their power the recurrence of the crime and shame of mob murder; they urge the Governors of the several States to do all that is possible to prevent and punish lynchings; they pledge their support to the officers of the law who, in the face of mob excitement, discharge their duties; and they urge upon the Congress of the United States, Nation-wide investigation of lynching and mob murder, to the end that means may be found to end that means may be found to end this scourage."

And who signed the call to that conference, which appealed for Federal Government investigation of, and action against, lynch-murder?

"Negro agitators and Northern politicians"?

Among the signers were Governors and United States Senators, eminent welfare-workers in civic and sociological concerns, jurists and clergymen, financiers and philanthropists, economists and publicists, business and professional men, such university presidents as Butler and Thwing, Jordan and Wheeler; Jews and Gentiles of whatever religious denomination. Among them were Dr. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard; former President Taft, Cardinal Gibbons, Charles E. Hughes, Elihu Root. Attorney General Palmer, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Dr. Henry Van Dyke.

But—the best is yet to come:

Twenty-eight States and the District of Columbia were represented in the 120 signers of the call.

Twenty of the signers were residents of eight Southern—"lynching"—States:

ALABAMA: Former Governor Emmett O'Neal.

Georgia: Governor Hugh M. Dorsey, former Congressman William H. Fleming, the Rev. and Mrs. John Dll Hammond, the Rt. Rev. Frederick F. Reese, Episcopal Bishop of Georgia.

Kentucky: Desha Breckenridge.

Louisiana: The Rev. Quincy Ewing.

Mississippi: A. T. Stovall, J. R. Bingham, J. B. Hutton, Jack C. Wilson.

North Carolina: W. D. Weatherford.

Tennessee: Bishop Thomas F. Gailor, James H. Kirkland, Fayette A. McKenzie, Bolton Smith.

Virginia: James H. Dillard, William H. Huntley, Henry St. George Tucker.

Obviously, the fact that Negro agitators and Northern vote-seeking politicians urge the Dyer Bill, neither indicts the character of the patriotic, famed men and women—Northerners and Southerners—who arranged and consummated the National Conference on lynching, nor damns the "Address to the Nation" which that assembly put forth. Nor, indeed, does it condemn the Dyer Bill itself—the congressional investigation of, and essay against, mob violence throughout the United States, only six of which have records unspotted by lynch-murder. Good citizens and bad elected Woodrow Wilson. Good citizens and bad voted for Warren G. Harding. Democratic President Wilson—Southern-born and Southern-reared—far more forcefully and impressively than Republican President Harding—Northern-born and Northern-reared—denounced lynching before the world and searingly exposed his country's atrocious record.

There is no crime, no criminal, not amenable to law—else every State's own Constitution and statues are lies.

There is no section of the Bill of Rights—National or State—that should not be upheld fearlessly—always.

Regardless of what the States do, or fail or refuse to do, should the United States Government give no more heed to the Nation's own adaptation of ancient Magna Charta han if it were a scrap of paper?

Outrage against the National Constitution demands National Government action.

—San Antonio (Texas) Express.

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"MOB SPIRTT DICTATED CONVICTION" SAYS COURT

New Trial Allowed For Harry Lattimar in Mingo Rape Case

LIVELY WRITES OPINION

George Price, of Wood County, Loses Appeal for New Trial in Murder Case

CHARLESTON W. VA. MAIL
MARCH 21, 1922

"The mob has dictated this conviction," declared an opinion of the West Virginia supreme court of appeals in reversing the death sentence imposed in Mingo county on Harry Lattimar. "The bloodthirsty mob spirit permeated the atmosphere of the trial and had its effect upon court and jury," continued the opinion written by Judge Lively and handed down today. A new trial was granted.

Lattimer, a negro was convicted on the charge of raping an eight-year-old white girl on September 6, 1921. The same day hew as arrested and within 24 hours had been indicted, tried, convicted, sentenced to be hanged and was on his way to the state penitentiary, according to the records of the case.

The reason for this exceeding hurried conviction is apparent in the statement from the circuit court, which has been made part of the record. In this statement the judge of the circuit court said: "I knew that feeling was running high against the accused in and about the coure house and had some fear of mob violence being inflicted on the accused if speedy justice were not meted out to him by the court."

Judicial Lynching

"The mob spirit has dictated this conviction," said Judge Lively, in his opinion. "The blood-thirsty mob spirit permeated the atmosphere of the trial, and had its effect upon the court and jury. The defendant may be guilty; that does not concern us. But he is entitled to fair and impartial trial, to the calm, deliberate and uninfluenced judgment of his peers. Orderly and constituted governments demands such trial. It is a safeguard in which all members of society are interested and which should be jealously upheld and guarded. A judicial lynching is a graver and more startling crime than a lynching by an irresponsible rabble. It undermines the foundation of orderly government and weakens respect for law and order. There should be no compromise with the spirit of lynching for any crime.

"What we have said is entirely impersonal," he says, and is not to be considered as reflecting upon the conduct of he officials in charge of the case. The circumstances may have impelled the choice of what was considered the lesser evil. The duty is therefore imperative on this court to annul the result brought about by a choice of evils, and to preserve to every member of society, however humble he may be, or however guilty he may be, the right of fair and impartial trial."

Syllabus in Case

In the syllabus in the case Judge Lively said: "Where a person has been arrested for an alleged crime, committed on the day of the arrest, and on the day following is indicted, tried, convicted, sentenced to hany, and immediately taken to the penitentiary for that purpose, and it appears that he has been given no time to prepare his defense, was assigned counsel after he announced that he was ready for trial and plead not guilty, and the judge certifies that he knew that feeling was running high against the accused in and about the scort house, and that he had some fear of mob violence being inflicted upon the accused if a speedy trial was not had; and it appears that no witnesses were summoned for the defendant, no motion made for change of venue, improper evidence admitted on the trial without objection on the prisoner's part, and a feeble and perfunctory defense interposed, the appellate court will set aside the verdict and award the prisoner a new trial, because he has not been accorded a fair and impartial trial."

The supreme court affirmed the decision of the circuit court of Wood county in conferring the death penalty on George Price, convicted of the murder of Charles McDonald, and charged with killing Mrs. George Price and Maggie Wival near Walker's station in Wood county, on Thanksgiving day, 1920. The case was remanded so that a new date for the execution might be set, the original date having passed pending the appeal of the case.

Other Decisions

Other decisions today were: Addie Manley against D. Brown, Mingo county, affirmed; George F. Browning against Dr. C. S. Hoffman and others, Mineral county, reversed, verdict set Landsman, Hirschheiner Company against J. A. Radwan, Wyoming county, reversed and remanded; New Eagle gas coal company against Matt Burgess, reversed and new trial awarded; William Woodyard against Lizzie Sayre, Wirt county, reversed and remanded.

The Manley-Brown case involved alleged damages due to a drain in Mingo county.

The case of Browning against Hoffman and others involved alleged malpractice. The plaintiff had been treated for a wound in the leg and gangrene developed, following an accident on November 11, 1918.

Judgment for $1,000 on an open account for merchandise sold and delivered was involved in the suit of Landsman, Hirschheimer company against J. A. Radwan.

In the New Eagle gas coal company's case against Matt Burgess the plaintiff was suing to recover possession of one electric generator and steam engine.

The Woodyard Sayre case concerned a deed of conveyance of real estate.

JUDGE PATTERSON INDORSES DEMAND FOR QUICK TRIALS

Declares Long Delays in Reaching Decisions in Criminal Cases Largely Cause of Formation of Mobs.

LYNCHING PENALTIES NOT CURE, HE ASSERTS

Member of Prison Commission Says It Is High Time for Legislators to Consider This Grave Problem.

Atlanta Constitution
5/29/22

Declaring that mob violence and disregard for laws of the state are the direct result of laxity on the part of courts in dealing with persons charged with capital crimes, and can be almost entirely eliminated by passage of legislation which will expedite cases of such character and insure a speedy trial for the defendant, Judge T. E. Patterson, a member of the Georgia prison commission, in a statement to The Constitution, indorses the principle of Senator Alvin G. Golucke's proposed measure to require judges to render decisions in criminal cases within a limited period.

"There is much food for thought," declares Judge Patterson, "concerning law enforcement and the criminal outbursts that are becoming so common throughout the country. It is really high time that the people, through their chosen representatives, should grapple with this problem and find, if possible, some measure of relief.

"Making new laws defining some new cause does not reach the root of this evil. Crime, or disobedience to law, comes either from evil desire or weakly following the leading of a stronger will. It is encouraged by the ease with which a person can get away with it without detection, or if known, can avoid the penalty.

Need Study of Psychology.

"To thoroughly understand the problem, it is necessary to study the psychology of the individual and of the mass, for any observer will readily understand that people are decidedly different when acting as an individual or as a member of a group. As individuals men are generous, sympathetic and forgiving, while as a group some men may, and often do, act without any of these qualities. This is why mob rule is so dangerous and it is why, in many communities, so many unlawful outbursts occur.

"Now when it is considered that crowds usually have a cause for assembly, it is necessary to consider some means to remove this cause if possible. This brings us gack to the original subject of law enforcement.

"When a crime of any kind is committed, this mass psychology comes into play and demands redress. If there is sure and speedy punishment in the courts, the masses are satisfied, but if this is not sure, or if there is such delay as to cause this demand for redress to be forgotten and allow this sympathy of the individual to come into play for the purpose of defeating this demand, then there is around this group or mass consciousness and on the next occasion they come together and carry out the demand for redress without the law. An injury, therefore, has been done to the individuals who compose the mob and to the law itself.

"New laws by theh states or federal

Continued on Page 2, Column 6.

INDORSES DEMAND FOR QUICK TRIALS

(Continued from Page 1.)

laws punishing mob violence will not cure this, for the enforcement of all law depends upon the people themselves. The only cure for this evil is such revision of judicial procedure as will make certain a speedy trial of offenders at a time when the mass of the people are demanding redress and before this sympathic side of the individual comes into play, either to defeat the trial or prevent punishment.

Revision is Needed.

"This can be done and every man guaranteed a fair trial and the equal protection of the law by the orderly procedure of the courts. Our rules of practice should be so remedied by the law that trials should be had without delay and continuances and motions for new trials should be so regulated that the same should be made and disposed of within a limited time and appeal entered and disposed of also in a limited time. In other words, it should not be possible to drag a case along for years or even months, but they should be promptly terminated.

"There would then be no cause of mob action and no mob could be formed for it would itself run counter to public opinion and there would be the same demand for redress against the mob. Thus it would become so dangerous that it would deter them from formation. The fear of punishment is the basis of the recognition of the authority of all governments over the actions and conduct of its citizens. If we take away from a government the power to punish, we destroy that government.

"Of course it is conceivable that mistakes will be made but not as many as under our present practice. And if it is discovered a mistake has been made this conscience of the people is lodged in the executive branch of the government which is given the power to reprieve and pardon. No pardon should be granted except where such mistakes have been made or where for some other reason appealing to the conscience of the executor, the full execution of the sentence should not be carried out. A parole is based on a different reason. This principle of the parole is that when a person who has been convicted of a violation of law has satisfied the law by serving the minimum sentence prescribed by law, can be allowed to serve the remainder of this sentence on parole to insure his return to a correct life in obedincee to the law.

"I believe that a careful study of this problem in all its phases will convince anyone that the real remedy is speedy trials and termination of court procedure, at the same time guaranteeing fair trials and equal protection of the laws. This reform can not be wrought by the courts for they are bound by the law as prescribed by the general assembly but the latter can effect this by prescribing rules of practice that will insure speedy trials."

White Pastors' Ass'n. Denounce Lynching

WACO, Texas, June 9.—Following the burning of the body of Jesse Thomas, a Negro, on the public square here last Friday afternoon, after the Negro had been shot by Sam Harris, father of Miss Maggie Hays, who identified Thomas as the man who shot and killed her daughter, then assaulted her the last Thursday night on the Corsicana road, six miles east of Waco, resolutions were adopted this morning at a meeting of the Waco Baptist Pastors' Association as follows:

"Whereas, Waco has been subjected to the disgraceful and uncivilized procedure of mob action, wherein the utmost brutality was exhibited; and,

"Whereas, this is but tht recurrence of similar action in this community in the past and indicates a menacing tendency that is most startling;

"Therefore, be it resolved, by the Waco Baptist Pastors' Association, that we hereby express our convictions and make an appeal as follows:

"1. The unspeakable crimes being committed call for the speediest and severest punishment.

"2. Mob action defeats justice in that it is primarily by men who are themselves dangerous to society or by irresponsible youths who are thus demoralized for all time to come, augmented by the unreflecting, highly, prejudiced or passion-inflamed good citizens. It defeats justice, in that men and seized and destroyed upon circumstantial evidence, thereby involving the horrible possibility of destroying the innocent. Further, it defeats justice in that by such process the law is derided, officers intimidated or overpowered, and the whole fabric of orderly government disentragated in the communities where such outrageous action is countenanced.

"3. We appeal to the sober-thinking, orderly-acting citizens of our city and county to consider the far-reaching implications of the situation now developing in our midst; how the temper of the masses is being altered for desperate and despicable action and riots are being fomented; we appeal to everybody, irrespective of any classification or alignment, to give their fullest co-operation to our officers in a courageous enforcement of law, through orderly processes, and to set themselves openly and firmly against any movement whatsoever in the direction of mob action, and we urge the most diligent, prompt and faithful action on the part of our courts, to the end that charges of legal delays and miscarriages of justice may no longer find any basis in fact."

WILLIAM BYRD LYNCHED IN GEORGIA; TOOK DEATH TOLL BEFORE DYING

Baltimore Herald 6/7/22

William Byrd was burned in Wayne county, Monday. This makes the seventh burning and the tenth lynching in Georgia and Texas within the last three weeks. Seven human beings burned alive and no word of expression of horror from the U. S. Congress from the President and no apparent shock to the sensibilities or conscience of the enlightened and highly civilized white Christians of America.

While Senators quibble over the constitutionality of a law to curb lynching and to put an end to roasting human beings alive, burnings increase a hundred fold and common every-day lynchings continue without abatement.

Out of the darkness, however, there is one ray of hope. William Byrd, one of the victims lynched, knew what was coming to him and determined to lynch some lynchers and got one and, it is to be hoped, probably two.

Disregarding the lying Georgia press dispatch it is evident that Byrd killed his man in self-defense; there were three whites and Byrd was no doubt attacked by them and shot to defend his life as he ought to have done.

And Byrd's way is the only way. It is time that Negroes should understand that wherever the State and Municipal governments do not protect their lives and the Federal Government pleads the baby act, each Negro must defend himself. Kill lynchers and mobbists wherever the chance offers. And don't miss any shots.

HARDWICK DENOUNCES LYNCHING "RECORDS"

Appeals to People of Georgia to Check Mob Law.

SEES THE STATE MALIGNED

Governor Addresses County Officers at Convention.

An appeal to the people of Georgia to assist in preventing lynchings and a denunciation of the reports sent out by the authorities of Tuskegee Institute as to the number of lynchings that take place in the state, which he termed as false and misleading, featured the address delivered yesterday at the Municipal Auditorium by Gov. Thomas W. Hardwick, at the opening session of the annual convention of the County Officers' Association. He spoke on "The Administration of the Law."

The concluding sessions of the County Officers' Association will be held on board the steamer St. Johns this afternoon when the officers for the ensuing year will be named. The members of the association will board the steamer at the foot of Whitaker street at 9 o'clock this morning and will return to Savannah at 7 o'clock this evening.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon on board the boat, State Senator James R. Thomas will deliver an address on "What Is the Matter With the World?" Following the address the election of officers will take place after which the 1922 convention of the association will be brought to an end.

"They tell us that Georgia leads in lynchings," said Mr. Hardwick. "So they do if the statistics submitted by the authorities of Tuskegee Institute are true. Every time a law-breaking negro takes a gun in his hand and defies officers of the law and is shot down by our sheriffs in the line of duty the authorities term the killing of the black as an outrageous lynching.

"As the chief executive of Georgia, the greatest state in the Union, I am here to protest in behalf of our people against such statistics as these and against figures of these so-called census-takers from Washington whose reports reflect upon this state's fair name."

"In Coweta county a deputy sheriff went to a negro's home to serve a warrant and when the negro asked to see the warrant the officer reached in his pocket to comply with the request. While he was doing so, the negro grabbed a gun and riddled the officer's body with bullets. A number of officers gave pursuit to the negro who fled with an automatic rifle under his arm. The negro was killed resisting the officers and this was termed a lynching outrage by Tuskegee Institute. Is that fair? Is it just? I say no.

"It would be selfish and hypocritical for us to deny that lawlessness does exist in this state at times. I say it should be stopped, but we will never stop it through the newspapers, by issuing pamphlets, or by any other such methods. We will stop it through the appeals to law-abiding Georgians, and by appealing to their sense of fairness and justice."

In concluding Mr. Hardwick said: "I stand for non-notoriety; administration of the laws fairly and a square deal to the whites and blacks alike."

The convention was opened with an address by Mayor Stewart, who welcomed the visitors on behalf of the city of Savannah. He was followed by an address of welcome by Judge Henry McAlpin, representing the county officers of Chatham county. E. D. White, president of the association, responded in a short speech in which he paid a beautiful tribute to Savannah and to the hospitality shown the county officers during their several conventions here.

Following the address of Gov. Hardwick the reports of the various committees were heard, after which the meeting adjourned. At 3 o'clock the members of the association went to Tybee where they spent the remainder of the day.

The Mob Spirit in Texas

Gal Post 6/12/22

To the Editor of The Post:

What is the matter with the Christian people of our country today? In Texas during the past 30 days eight lives have been taken by lynching. Two wrongs can never make one right. Surely the protection of one's home is the duty of every true son of America, and there might be an excuse for any father, brother or husband to shoot on sight a fiend who has committed an assault on the womanhood of the home, but surely there can be no reasonable excuse offered for a mob that would storm an undertaking parlor and seize therefrom the dead body of a human being, drag it through the streets of a civilized and cultured city, and complete the atrocity by burning the remains. This would be an act of savagery of the worst type, and certainly not an example of culture and refinement for any city or town in this fair land of ours to set.

I have reference to the newspaper report of the event occurring in Waco yesterday. It is high time that our citizenship is awakening to what is going on around us. Each and every man will have to give an account of his deeds on this earth before a just and exacting judge, and certainly no one will be held guiltless who has participated in such outrageous persecution. Why don't the churches, fraternal organizations, the luncheons and dinner clubs and bodies of every nature awaken to their responsibilities, pass resolutions condemning such affairs, use all of their best efforts to forge to the front the sacred teachings of the word of God, and thus endeavor to thwart crime with helpfulness and true Christianity. Pause, men, and think of the stewardship of life that you must make account for before the great white throne.

R. S. Sterling.

Houston, May 27.

Lynchings — 1922 & Discussions

Individuals.

1000

SOLON ATTACK DEFENSE OF MOB

Indianapolis Ind. Freeman 1/14/1922

Special to The Freeman

OKLAHOMA CITY, Jan. 11.—Resolutions condemning a person who resorts to mob violence as a means of government for criminals and characterizing those persons who participate in the actions of a mob as "members of the criminal class.' were adopted recently by the members of the Oklahoma Bar Association in convention here.

The resolutions were only adopted after a bitter debate and general arraignment of recent mob outrages. Several attorneys became incensed by an address made in defense of lynch law and mob violence by Hayden Linlebaugh, former United States District Attorney for the Eastern District.

Crowded Room in Pandemonium.

Linebaugh's remarks were interpreted by most of the lawyers in conference as a general defense of mob violence. For several minutes after he spoke, the crowded room was thrown into pandemonium. Many conferees were on their feet at once endeavoring to be recognized by the chair. Parliamentary rules were abandoned until the president restored order. Geo. S. Ramsey, former State Supreme Court Justice, of Muskogee, was finally given the floor. He delivered a terrible verbal attack on mob violence in its every form and upon those persons who participated in or condoned such crimes.

GOVERNOR NEFF ON LYNCHING.

Paris Morning News.

In his talk at Fort Worth Governor Neff had this to say concerning lynching: Houston Tex. Post 1/8/22

"Lynching is one of the worst forms of lawlessness known today," the governor continued as he denounced mob violence without referring to any particular lynching. "During 1920 there were more lynchings in Texas than in any other State. This means that Texas led the civilized world in this species of uncivilized lawlessness. Some may say that this reflects upon Texas. I intend it as a reflection on Texas. A stronger public sentiment against this brand of lawlessness is needed."

There will be few who will take issue with the governor in his declaration.

Practically all citizens denounce lynching—but they take no real step toward preventing it. Usually the leaders of mobs number only two or three; the rest of the crowd starts through curiosity and a desire to have an exciting experience.

They make no effort to prevent the lynching. They go with the crowd or they permit the crowd to surge past them with their victims without protest.

Most of us fear to say anything against lynching for the reason that the mob leaders, as an excuse for themselves, charge that the protest is in favor of the crime and of criminals—and most of us are afraid of that charge.

Mob law is just as vicious, just as much a crime, when it takes the form of tar and feathers for suspects; when the accused person, without trial and without an opportunity for defense, is beaten or subjected to other form of punishment without a trial.

It is all mob law.

MOB SPIRIT GROWS BEYOND FIRST IDEA

NO LONGER LIMITED TO PROTECTION OF WOMEN AGAINST ASSAULT.

HOGG OFFERS REMEDY

DALLAS TEX NEWS JANUARY 6 1923

Would Penalize Counties and Remove Officers—Legislature Fails.

BY WILLIAM GREENE STERETT.

It may be that the mob execution of a negro in Paris in 1893 was the first open exercise of mob law in the State. To be sure, mobs had committed murder before this time in our Commonwealth, but not till then did one of them come out in the open daylight and visit the penalty of death on a culprit. The crime committed by this criminal was an awful one. The whole State shuddered as it was related in the newspapers. The punishment visited on the criminal was the extreme in torture and men turned from it, sickened. It was no time to talk of the wisdom and duty of permitting the law to take its course. It was no time to expostulate or criticise or suggest. There was no investigation of the execution of the negro. There were no indictments returned—no prosecutions of any sort whatever. But there were in the State wise and good people who contemplated the result of this acquiescence in the exercise of mob spirit with uneasiness over the danger yet to come from it. Not so long afterward a mob burned a negro at Tyler. Again there was acquiescence and again there were no indictments.

Now, in these two cases, the crimes committed by the criminals were of one kind. Those whose horror of such a crime made them apologists for the other crime—the execution of the criminals by mobs—contended that for no other crime than that of criminal assault on women, would mob law ever be exercised in the State. The enforcement of the law against this crime had not been neglected. To be sure, there had been but few commissions of it and the prosecutions had therefore been rare. But the law had been enforced and several negroes hanged from the legal gallows for it. So the excuse for the mob was not based on the neglect of officials to enforce the law; instead, it was that the crime was so repulsive that victims of it ought to be saved the shame of testifying in court by the exercise of mob law. Thus for years there appears to have been a common consent that the mob was vested with original jurisdiction in cases of what is known as criminal assaults on women.

Abuse of Power Grows.

Bigotry, fanaticism and superstition blot the pages of the history of man. But those which are the most crimson are those which tell of the rule of the Spanish Inquisition. This institution of power was organized by the then dominant church to put down heresy and to save man from the influence of those who would destroy the spiritual growth of the world. The Pope of that period assumed the power to question the religious opinions of members of his church and to lead those whom he feared were wandering back into the paths of right thinking. But he delegated that proper power as head of the church to a monastical order. Its founder, St. Dominic, was of the intense character which demands accomplishment—of that character of which unbending bigots are made. Clothed with power, this Inquisition not only visited its fury on the man who denied God, but visited it on the man who acknowledged him, but read his Scriptures in a way different from that of the masters of the religious world.

Progressing in power, the fury was visited on members of rival religious organizations and on Jews who did not recognize Christianity and on barbarians who knew nothing of any kind of religion. There is a marked spot in Mexico City, on a public square, where the Inquisition burned a Jew because of his religious belief. I relate this merely to show our tendencies when we have an uncontradicted power.

At first we mobbed for one crime and that alone. This has not been so many years ago.

As has been said, the enormity of the crime carried with it a sort of condonation for the punishment by a mob of him who committed it, and in any way that such mob wished to inflict it. The condonation carried with it also encouragement. The mob began to enlarge its jurisdiction over more crimes and adopt different punishments for them. The bellboy at a hotel was branded and whipped because his conduct was wholly of an immoral kind. The husband who was not supporting his wife or the individual who would not work or had different views to those of the mob or its leaders was whipped or tarred and feathered. The poor woman whose conduct excited the anger of mob members received punishment in the way of being tarred and feathered and having her hair cut.

"Public Murder," Said Hogg.

At the time of the execution of the negro at Paris James S. Hogg was our Governor. Like many people of the State, he became alarmed over the possible increase of the crime of lynch law, as he was shocked at the way it was administered in this case. In a message to the Legislature in February, 1893, he said:

"It becomes my painful duty to emphasize to you the necessity of taking some steps to prevent mob violence in Texas. The recent terrible holocaust at Paris is but an illustration of to what extent the mob spirit will go when the laws are inadequate to check it. While the victim of that affair was guilty of an atrocious, barbarous crime, appalling to contemplate, for which he was certain of full punishment under the Constitution and laws of our State, our civilization stands aghast, a helpless witness to the most revolting execution of the age, in which a large number of citizens openly, in broad day, publicly became murderers by methods revolting to humanity. Brushing away sentiment, which should never accompany punishment for crime, the public murder committed at Paris is a disgrace to the State. Its atrocity, inhumanity and sickening effect upon the people at large can not be obscured by reference to the savage act of the culprit himself in brutally taking the life of an innocent child. For his deed the death penalty awaited him under the law. The imputation that he could not have been legally executed by any legal court in the State is a slander on the integrity of every citizen.

"To contend that his executioners who publicly murdered him can neither be indicted nor tried in the county where the crime was committed is a pretense and a mockery. So the condition exists in our State that while one man may be convicted for murder, a hundred men who publicly commit murder can not be. The law, therefore, without further legislation, may be held in defiance in any community where forces are strong enough to overawe the local officers and set aside the legal machinery. Our Constitution is not so hidebound that this condition must continue. It is in the power of the Legislature to adopt measures to either prevent mob law or to bring to punishment all murderous executioners. No combination of men should ever be so strong in any Government as to successfully override the law. They should never be so numerous as to make it impossible to bring them to trial for their crimes in the proper court.

Mobocracy Overrides Guarantees.

"The Constitution provides that in all criminal prosecution for felony the accused shall have a speedy public trial by jury, on indictment duly found; that he shall have the right to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him and have a copy thereof; that he shall not be compelled to give evidence against himself; that he shall have the right to be heard by counsel; that he shall be confronted by the witnesses against him; he shall have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and no cruel or unusual punishment shall be inflicted on any citizen of this State for crime. Mobocracy overrides all these guarantees. It was done in this Paris case. It has been done in many others where the victims were innocent of crime. The question presents itself, are the people willing to submit to this? If they are they should have the courage, the manhood, the justice and the patriotism to repeal the bill of rights.'

Prior to the sending of this message and before the lynching at Paris, Governor Hogg had become alarmed at the mob spirit manifested in parts of Texas, and during his first term as Governor he had acted vigorously toward suppression of the spirit. Among other things, he offered liberal rewards for the apprehension and conviction of members of mobs. During his campaign for re-election, in 1892, he spoke strongly upon the subject, declaring that unless the people should change their laws or put him out of office "I shall be standing up by my constitutional obligations under all circumstances and exigencies, performing my duties as I understand them. Mobs must give way to the courts in Texas!"

Accordingly, when the Twenty-Third Legislature met in 1893, soon after the Paris lynching, he reviewed the subject in a message, as stated in the foregoing, and in this message he went on to suggest a law that he believed ought to be enacted, so that the State might deal more effectively with the subject. The law, he said, ought to provide:

Would Put Teeth in Law.

"1. That when any person, being a prisoner or in jail or other place of confinement or under arrest or in official custody or restraint, or is held under the authority of any county, city or State officer, or is restrained by virtue of any legal process, shall be taken from such place or authority in violation of law and put to death, the county in which such person was held or confined, and from which he may have been so taken, shall be liable to pay a specified large sum to the surviving wife, husband, children or parents of said person who shall have so suffered death.

"2. Make the county also liable for damages when any person, not being a prisoner or under legal duress, is mobbed by two or more persons and the said criminals are not within a specified time indicted and prosecuted for their crime.

"3. Make such person or corporation also liable for damages who takes part in, or aids by acts, encourages by words or gestures, or who keeps watch, or in any way abets in the mobbing of a person.

"4. Give the surviving relatives an action in the District Court of any county where the murder was committed, or in any county where all or either of the relatives may reside when the action is instituted.

"5. Render the Sheriff ineligible to hold his office and provide for his removal when a prisoner is taken from the jail or from himself or from any officer of lawful authority in his presence, and is put to death by a mob.

"6. Provide for a change of venue, either before or after indictment, in all cases of mob violence."

The Legislature failed to enact this or any other law upon this subject, but Governor Hogg continued to denounce mobs and to press for an adequate remedy. The Democratic State convention of 1894 made a platform declaration upon the subject, and in a speech delivered at Rockdale on Oct. 1 of that year, Governor Hogg spoke on the subject, quoting this plank and strongly commending it. He said in part:

Democratic Party Spoke.

"The tenth plank of the platform is as follows and certainly is a good one. It read as follows: 'We hold to the theory that government was instituted for the protection of life, liberty and property, and that it fails in its purpose when it denies that protection to every citizen and class of citizens. We view with great apprehension the growing tendency to set at defiance the laws for the protection of life and property and demand of our Legislature amendments of such laws as may be found necessary, and of the executive the use of all powers of the State when necessary for the protection of the lives of our citizens and of all classes of property in the State."

But the power of the mob spirit was not destroyed or even weakened by this effort of one of the greatest and most courageous men of our State to destroy this menace to a free government, whose mission is to protect life and property. The Legislatures have failed to enact the legislation suggested, and the mobs have gone right along increasing their jurisdiction until the point has been reached that they now administer their punishment to those whose personal conduct does not suit them. In the face of this fact—in the face of the fact that no citizen is secure, is it strange that the people who contemplate government as an institution for their protection, should turn with somewhat approval to the proposition that the Federal Government shall interfere in State affairs to the extent of preventing

AUTHORITIES NEVER WINK AT LYNCHINGS

Montgomery Ala.

North Carolina Governor Defends Officers of South Against Charge

2/19/22 Advertiser

(Associated Press)

RALEIGH, N. C., Feb. 18.—"Lynchings are never winked at by the authorities," Governor Morrison said, "and are always prevented where the authorities have any konwledge of the approach of danger and an opportunity to prevent it. What has come to be called lynching in the South is nothing but ordinary killings in other sections of the country.

"Because of the fact that some of our county sites are small villages with very small police forces and the jail kept by one man, those who are bitterly aroused and seek vengeance are able to go to the jail and by some ruse or trick capture the jailer and take the sought criminal.

"This very rarely occurs, and we have adopted a rule in this state now of bringing to the state prison in Raleigh for safe keeping criminals who have perpetrated crimes which in their nature outrage the community and might cause violence. So-called lynchings of this character are very rare; most of these occurrences called lynchings happen before the officers apprehend the prisoner at all and are nothing but murders committed by those who are outraged by the crime and committed by the persons lynched. The officers know nothing of it until after it's over and have no way to prevent it.

"The sentiment against so-called lynchings in this state is pronounced and universal. We now have in the state penitentiary a white man who led a mob in an assault upon three negro prisoners in the hands of the authorities. One of the three men sought by the mob, who was convicted of first degree murder and sentenced to death in the electric chair, has been recently commuted to a sentence of life imprisonment upon the recommendation of the judge and solicitor who tried him."

Civilization demands that the mob law be abolished, but legislation will not do it. Both races will have to be educated to respect the laws of the country enough to abide by them.

One writer asked me why I didn't send the letter to the negro press. The negro press, in the majority of cases, also the negro church, is a farce. When I think of the filthy stuff that comes from some of the filthy papers called the negro press, it reminds me of the dog howling at the moon. And no one on earth knew what he was howling at.

Will this race ever wake up to the fact that politically they are tools and have been so for 59 years, and will always remain so.

GEO. W. WRIGHT.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN AGAINST LYNCHING

Let every American, every lover of liberty, every well-wisher to his posterity, swear by the blood of the Revolution never to violate in the least particular the laws of the country, and never to tolerate their violation by others. . . To the support of the Constitution and laws let every American pledge his life, his property and his sacred honor—let every man remember that to violate this law is to trample on the blood of his father, and to tear the charter of his own and his children's liberty. Let reverence of the laws be breathed by every American mother to the lisping babe that prattles on her lap; let it be taught in schools, in seminaries and in colleges; let it be written in primers, spelling books and in almanacs; let it be preached from the pulpit, proclaimed in legislative halls and enforced in the courts of justice. In short, let it become the political religion of the nation, and let the old and the young, the rich and the poor, the grave and the gay of all sexes and tongues and colors and conditions sacrifice unceasingly upon its altars.—From the Lyceum address, Springfield, Ill., January 27, 1837.

MAKING TOOLS OF A RACE.

Commercial Appeal

Batesville, Miss., March 13, 1922.

To The Commercial Appeal.

I have received many unjust criticisms, sarcastic Memphis Scimitar comments upon my article of Feb. 22. I want to use your valuable apper long enough to answer these infamous and hair-brained attempts to pick flaws in what I say to discount, if possible, what I say. What I said I meant, but not in the light that many of my would-be smart criticizers understood. 3/19/22

The part that caused so much comment was concerning the anti-lynch law. To explain it in brief, I said a volume in as few words as possible. What I meant was not to say or infer that lynch law was justifiable. Or that every person lynched was guilty. But what I said many had been found guilty and deserved what they got. I have too much consideration for the future welfare of my people to say or do anything that might injure the future or retard the proper development of the race along sane lines.

VULGAR MOB ORATOR DESCRIBED BY WRITER

3/18/22 Chicago Defender

A significant pamphlet on "Mob Mind vs. Civil Liberty" has just been published by the American Civil Liberties Union to show the causes of mob violence and the suppression of free speech. The pamphlet consists of extracts from a book on "Behavior of Crowds," by Everett Dean Martin, director of the Cooper Union Forum of the People's Institute of New York city. In introducing the pamphlet the Civil Liberties Union says: "In the pandemonium of propaganda in which we are living this picture of our thinking should serve the cause of tolerance. We commend the point of view equally to radicals, conservatives and liberals."

Some of the striking statements in Dr. Martin's study follow:

"Our society is becoming a veritable Babel of gibbering crowds. Not only are mob outbreaks and riots increasing in number, but every interest, patriotic, religious, ethical, political, economic, easily degenerates into a confusion of propagandist tongues, into extravagant partisanship and intemperance. The effect of all this upon the individual is that he is permitted neither to know nor to belong to himself. He becomes a mere banner toter.

"Upon the social peace the effect is equally bad. Unnecessary and meaningless strife is engendered. An idolatry of phrases is enthroned. A silly game of bullying and deception is carried on among contending crowds, national, religious, moral, social.

"The leader in crowd-thinking par excellence is the daily newspaper. With few exceptions our journals emit hardly anything but crowd ideas. These great molders of public opinion reveal every characteristic of the vulgar mob orator.

"Every crowd is potentially if not actually homicidal in its tendencies. The projection of this hatred on those outside the crowd serves not so much to shield the subject from the consciousness of his own hatred, as to provide him with a pretext for exercising it. Given such a pretext, most crowds will display their homicidal tendencies quite openly.

Wars of Self-Defense

"The classic example of the killing crowd is, of course, a nation at war. There are, to be sure, wars of national self-defense which are due to political necessity rather than to crowd-thinking, but even in such cases the phenomena of the crowd are likely to appear to the detriment of the cause. At such times not only the army but the whole nation becomes a homicidal crowd. A nation becomes warlike to precisely the extent that its people may be made to think and behave as a crowd. Once a crowd, it is always in the right.

"The intensest hatred of the crowd is that directed toward the heretic, the nonconformist, the traitor. I have sometimes thought that to the crowd mind there is only one sin, heresy. Every sort of crowd, political, religious, moral, has an ax ready for the person who in renouncing its ideas and leaving it threatens to break it up. The bitter partisan hatred of crowds is nothing compared to their hatred for the renegade. The greatest enemy of personality is the crowd. The crowd does not want valuable men; it wants only useful men.

The Crowd Mind

"The crowd mind is seen at its best and at its worst in revolution. A revolution is the dictatorship of a new crowd. A true revolution occurs when the difference between the dominant crowd and the one which supplants it is so great as to produce a general social upheaval. In most cases the abuses, the existence of which a revolutionary crowd uses for propaganda purposes, are in turn repeated in new form by itself after it becomes dominant.

"A revolution occurs when the dominant crowd begins to weaken. I think we find proof of this in the psychology of revolutionary propaganda. A general revolution is not made in a day. Each such cataclysm is preceded by a long period of unrest and propaganda of opposition to the existing order and its beneficiaries. There is always a tendency among conservative crowds to hasten their own downfall by the manner in which they deal with revolutionary propaganda. The seriousness of the new issue is denied; the crowd seeks to draw attention back to the old issue which it fought and won years ago in the hour of its ascendancy. The crowd-group contains in itself, in the very nature of crowd thinking, the germs which sooner or later lay it low.

"It is a significant fact that a crowd's rule is generally challenged in the name of the very abstract ideas of which it has long posed as the champion. For instance, there is liberty. Every crowd demands it when it is seeking power; no crowd permtis it when it is in power. In general, then, it may be said that where the crowd is, there is tyranny. Tyranny may be exercised through one agent or through many, but it nearly always comes from the same source—the crowd.

"No tyranny was ever for long maintained by force. All tyrannies begin and end in the tyranny of ideas uncritically accepted. Democracy in America fails of freedom, not because of our political constitution though that woudl doubtless be modified by a people who were more free at heart; it fails because freedom of opinion, intellectual alertness, critical thinking about fundamentals, is not encouraged."

Copies of the pamphlet, entitled "The Mob Mind vs. Civil Liberty" may be obtained from the American Civil Liberties Union, 138 West 13th street, New York city

N Y C WORLD
MAY 16, 1922

PREJUDICING NEGRO PROGRES

To the Editor of The World:

Just the other day a mob of men in Kirvin, Tex., burned at the stake three Negroes who were held as the assailants of a young white girl. Quickly thereafter a brother of one of the burned Negroes was hanged for guilty knowledge of the crime. The Texas papers indicate that the crime was a particularly atrocious one, marked by fiendish bestiality. The details as recorded are exceedingly revolting.

During the past two months I have attended three meetings of the Liberator group. At each of these, the formal programme ended, there has been dancing in which whites and blacks were partners. Moreover, at a Sunday night meeting about a month ago, when the so-called Negro problem was discussed, one Negro delivered a brief, ringing speech in which he said that his group, whatever it may be, demands "social equality and all the things that go with it." While no other speeches of like tenor were then delivered, a considerable wave of applause indicated that the speaker's views enjoyed support among whites and blacks present. It was further indicated that each of the Negro speakers, whatever his degree and type of radicalism, was affiliated with organizations of national propaganda.

Between the incident at Kirvin and the Liberator gatherings there is quite possibly no direct connection. Yet there may easily be such relationship. As one who comes now to New York to reside, having lived before only in Georgia and Texas, I am impressed that some of the Negro spokesmen in New York may do a great damage to the members of their race still resident in the South and southwest. They remind me of children playing with torches in a powder magazine. Let their ideas gain any degree of credence among the Negroes of the South and the results will inevitably be painful to the blacks who accept those views, and to many innocents as well. It may be taken as a final fact that the white man of the United States will not permit the black man to mate or associate with a white woman. A few disgraceful exceptions to this rule serve but to mislead. The fact stands; to misunderstand that it is so means horrible bloodshed and violence, where the Negro, as always, must suffer.

This is neither a commentary upon the Texas incident nor that of the Liberator group, other than to warn your misadvised New York Negro speakers that they sow the whirlwind. If they are the arch-traitors of their race they could select no better method than that of irresponsible utterance for the undoing of their people. Toward the Negro the hand of the white may be soft—or immeasurably hard.

JOHN E. ROSSER.

New York, May 11.

Lynchings—1922.
Discussions of.

18 Individuals.

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NEGRO WOMEN LAUD ANIT-LYNCHING STAND

Atlanta Constitution

Resolutions, expressing appreciation and gratitude to the commission Missionary council of the Methodist Episcopal church, South, for their efforts to abolish lynching and mob violence, were passed December 1, by the colored women of the Missionary circle of the A. M. E. church of Atlanta. 12-14-22

WOMEN OF SOUTH URGE ENDING OF LYNCHING EVIL

Houston Post
Houston, Texas

Associated Press Report.

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 7.—Responsibility for control of lynching was thrown back upon each State as a result of the failure of the Dyer anti-lynching bill in congress, it was declared in a statement issued here late today by a group of women of the Southern Methodist church at the conclusion of a three days conference devoted to the study of Christian principles in race relations. 12-8-22

Resolutions made public with the statement demanded that the State authorities "make good their claim proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching," and called upon the citizenship, the pulpit and the press to "join in an insistent and persistent agitation against this barbarous practice."

Attached to the statement as its sponsors were names of women from every Southern State.

Sentiment Against Lynching

The Columbia State recalls that thirty years ago a meeting was held in a South Carolina county court house to condemn that paper for daring to denounce a lynching. A State senator presided and many prominent citizens were present. The State declares no such meeting could be held today, and sees marked progress in the fight to abolish the lynching evil.

Houston Post-Houston, Texas

Progress has certainly been made in turning public sentiment against lynching. The State is right in assuming that no such meeting as the one held thirty years ago could be held in the open today. Responsible newspapers throughout the South are unanimous in their condemnation of lynching, and they have the majority of the best people in the Southern States with them on the issue. 12-25-22

But public sentiment against lynching has not become militant enough to stop the progress of the lynching evil itself, or to urge the State authorities to do much to punish lynchers. It is only occasionally that a State makes any serious effort to apprehend or punish those guilty of mob murders. It is apparent that the influences at work to stop lynching have a considerable way to go yet before they have public sentiment sufficiently militant against lynching to translate itself into action through the law enforcing machinery of the States.

At the present time the status seems to be that while the majority of responsible citizens deplore lynchings and condemn them in an academic sort of way, they stop short of doing anything about them after they occur.

Unless public sentiment becomes more militant in this respect and acts through the States, the rejoicing the proponents of States' rights have been indulging in over the recent defeat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill will be short-lived. The lynching evil will not be permitted to go much further in the United States. If the States do not become more effective in suppressing it, Federal action is inevitable in some form. The reckless element in the population which is ready to take the law into its own hands on slight provocation, should not assume that the defeat of the Dyer bill gives them free reign to vent their passions with impunity.

NEW HAVEN CONN REGISTER
NOVEMBER 24, 1922

LYNCHING

An appealing advertisement has appeared in the New York newspapers. It gives with figures the sad story of lynchings throughout our land. It seems that in the last four years Americans have burned 28 fellow-countrymen at the stake, and that 3,436 persons have been lynched since 1889 within our borders. Fewer than seventeen per cent. of the victims were even accused of "the usual crime."

This is a record sufficient to mortify every American citizen and every member of the white race wherever he may live.

The advertisement urges the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which has passed the House but has not passed the Senate. This bill provides that culpable state officers and mobbists shall be tried in federal courts, and that counties in which lynchings occur shall be fined $10,000.

Much as every true American and Christian wishes to see lynching cease, it is open to just question whether the Dyer bill is expedient. Once more we have here an instance of mental confusion over the sphere of law. We Americans seem to have a veritable mania for improving our morals by the neat device of adding a statut to our alread ponderous statute books. Lynching is the product of a diseased public sentiment and law cannot cure disease.

It is asserted that three archbishops, 85 bishops, and many other prominent churchmen endorse the Dyer law. How can their endorsement be construed otherwise than as a confession that they, in their profession, have failed? For as teachers of the Christian faith it is their duty to lead their followers into paths of righteousness where mob rule would not be known. These churchmen are appealing to Caesar to help Christ.

ANARCHY IN ACTION.

Montgomery Advertiser 12/4/22

Montgomery Monday night narrowly escaped an awful disaster, in which scores of people might have been killed, through the actions of a voluntary unorganized mob made up mainly of reckless and thoughtless youths assailing officers of the law to get possession of a negro held in jail for murder. What actually happened was bad enough, anarchy parading the streets, but a graver disaster was avoided by the coolness and the intelligent restraint of the peace officers of the county headed by Sheriff John Scogins, the police headed by Chief Taylor and the National Guardsmen commanded by Colonel Moon. The part played by the officers of the law was altogether commendable.

They restrained their men when they were fired on by members of the mob who had temporarily lost their reason. Wit their men well stationed and protected with ample arms, the officers of the law could have destroyed the mob. Realizing the far-reaching consequences of replying to the attacks of the mob in kind, they saved the mob from itself by not firing a shot. If the officers had been as unthinking and as reckless as the members of the mob, the streets about the jail would have been filled with dead and wounded men.

Under the specious claim that they were helping in the carrying out of the law, this unsummoned and voluntary mob sought to tear down the visible aspects of law and order and to kill officers who were fulfilling their oath to defend and uphold the law. For a few hours Montgomery witnessed anarchy in action on its streets. It was not a pleasant sight. Men, mainly young men, threw off all restraint and panted for an opportunity of defying and destroying law and order, and they did things of which they were no doubt heartily ashamed when the morning sun dawned. All who witnessed the scenes on the streets of Montgomery Monday night will be heartily grateful for the city's narrow escape from a tragic disaster.

These violent and disorderly scenes had a cause. And in saying this no sort of apology is intended for a law defying mob. Montgomery in recent years has witnessed two instances of race troubles in which crimes by a certain class of criminals were committed one after another, until public indignation was stirred to a danger heat among the more violent of the white population. In the latter instance, two brave officers, carrying out their duty to protect society, were brutally murdered without being given a chance for their lives. A police officer is called out to protect a negro woman from the attacks of a negro man. The latter suddenly and without any sort of warning shoots the officer on his errand of duty. A few hours later, while searching for the murderer, another peace officer with an honorable record, and the head of a family, is viciously murdered when he questions another negro.

The racial outbreak was attributable to the cumulative effects of these two crimes, so similar in their character. Public indignation, which later assumed the form of violence among the unthinking, was perceptible as it rose. One way to correct or limit lawlessness is to stop unreasoning and brutal attacks on officers of the law. These men, in time of trouble, serve as a buffer between the criminal element of the negro race and the lawless elements of the white race. They are the scouts thrown out by society for the protection of the body of society. It is their duty to take their lives in their own hands in their communication with the criminal element. It is not unnatural that society itself should be concerned about their care and outraged when they fell victims to the criminals. It is well to face the fact squarely that crime involving the savage killing of officers in the discharge of their duty, if such crimes become serial, will stir racial trouble in the complicated racial conditions under which we live. That trouble is accentuated if, as has been done in the past, the criminals are harbored and protected by the members of their own race.

The leaders of the negro race, we are confident, would go far to prevent the recurrence of such unreasoning violence as that of Monday night. Let them in all seriousness and fairness reflect over these facts, the criminal negro regards the officer of the law as a symbol of that law that

he has broken, and as an enemy to be shot down on sight. Again law officers are charged with being harsh and brutal to innocent negroes, which is a natural consequence of the apprehension they feel when they approach a possible criminal that his reply to any question they ask may be a deadly pistol shot.

A surprisingly large amount of race trouble is caused by the spontaneous warfare between the criminal negro and the officer of the law. The consequences of this trouble are that the violent element of both races are stirred, and that before quiet is restored innocent negroes are subject to mishandling which they would never have had but for the hatred of criminal negroes for officers of the law. If there are leaders of the race who are stimulating that hatred, by direct or indirect preaching, they are doing their own race an injury. The human element of these difficulties must be faced and discussed. The law seems to be inefficient when human indignation reaches such a stage that it is willing to defy the law.

But as narrow as the escape was Montgomery yet prevented a lynching and, by the excellence of their officials in the discharge of their duty, prevented a pitched battle between an armed and foolish mob and embattled officers and National Guardsmen. For this the city can be proud, although it winces to think of anarchy let loose for two hours in the city of Montgomery. And even the members of a mob should have a sense of justice due an innocent negro. For it is the innocent who suffer during these times of stress and violence. Let us continue to hope that Montgomery, so quiet and peaceful under ordinary conditions, will never again witness such scenes as those of Monday night.

Lynchings — 1922.
Discussion of,

1802

Sounds Mrs. Felton on Lynching Evil in South

Topeka Plaindealer
Topeka Kansas

But So Far No Reply Has Been Received

11-10-22

October 16, 1922
Nrs. W. H. Felton, U. S. Senator
Dear Senator:

We wish to congratulate the first U. S. woman senator. As editor of one of the leading colored newspapers of this country, we have always been advocates of women suffrage and this was the sentiment of the colored man who voted on the subject, north, east and west, and no doubt would have been the sentiment of those in the south if they had been permitted to cast a ballot and express themselves on all public questions as they were in the sections named above.

Believing you to be a high class Christian lady from your interview reported by the press dispatches and with your age, experience and associations, we know you must have some sympathy for the colored race. You know their hardships, their trials and the abuses, that are heaped upon them in the South by the people of your race during the cloudy days of slavery, and since freedom. You no doubt remember the auction block, where mothers were separated from their suckling babes and husbands from their wives. You probably remember the beying of the blood hounds and the cracking of the lash upon the blacks of those heavily burdened slaves and no doubt you have shed many a tear when you think of the young girl who was outraged by over-seers and her masters and even brought into this world children of mixed blood whom they do not recognize as relatives. You no doubt remember the Ku Klux Klan and the Bush Whackers who drove colored freedmen from their homes, murdered and outraged their families. You no doubt remember at the present time the hundreds of innocent colored men who are being lynched and burned at the stake in Georgia.

I know all this you hate and deplore and that if you had the opportunity to exercise your vote in the U. S. Senate you would vote for the Dyer Anti-lynch bill now pending in the Senate. I know that you believe that the time is at hand when some measure should be taken to blot out this everlasting disgrace and crimes of lynching and outraging people because they happeu to be of another race. I know you are aware of the fact that the average colored citizens are not treated in the state of Georgia, nor the South as well as the Mexican, Indian, German or any other foreign citizen who lives within the confines of the state or the South, notwithstanding that the colored race has made those states what they are by hard toil and struggle within the past two centuries and your race has thrived and prospered by this unpaid labor.

We believe that your higher Christian qualities and the blood that runs through your veins burns with indignation to remember the crimes that have been and are now being perpetrated upon this race. We hope that you speak out in your own natural terms at every place and opportunity to the white people of Georgia and the South to treat the colored people better and that they deserve half as fair treatment as the foreigner with in the confines of Georgia or the South. You and your sex who have just been ushered into citizenship, should look forward to breaking up these crimes being heaped up on these disfranchised citizens who have not been allowed to exercise the right of franchise as American citizens. It is expected of you to do your Christian duty to obliterate these wrongs and deceit of all such officers who hold offices in those states, counties and cities.

It seems that every human being should be accorded the same rights in Georgia and the South as they are in the North. There will never be any peace or happiness in those states that continue to nullify he Constitution. It seems to us that after fifty years of Jeff Davis and the terrible conflict of Sixty-one and Sixty-five all should join and make this one solid government, one flag, one sentiment and one people, serving one God, and everyone that obeys the constitution and the laws and loves the flag will be treated as good citizens. But those who do not respect either or the rights of all should be considered outlaws and handled accoordingly.

I am sorry the time accorded will not permit you to speak in the Senate as we would be delighted to hear of you expressing yourself on the floor of that great assembly.

We should be glad to have your expression on the subject set forth in this letter. Hoping you continued success and health, I remain,

Yours truly,
Nick Chiles,
Editor, The Topeka Plaindealer and President of the National Defense Society.

Individuals.

Crusaders of N. Y. City Hear Mrs. Talbert and Mrs. Dunbar-Nelson

Wilmington Advocate

Bethel A. M. E. Church, on 132d street of which Rev. M. W. Thornton is pastor, was crowded to its doors on Sunday afternoon to hear the cause of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders presented to New York. The great edifice was packed and many were turned away before the hour for the opening of the meeting.

Mrs. Helen Curtis, State Director for New York City, presided. The Crusaders prayer was given by Mrs. Mary E. Stuart and Mrs. Lillian Alexander read the scripture lesson. Vocal and violin solos were given. Mrs. Carrie Yeats, Miss Minnie Brown, and Charles Waters and Allen Rose while the choir of the church gave the music. 11-18-22

The speakers, Walter F. White, Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson and Mrs. Mary B. Talbert were fittingly introduced by Mrs. Elizabeth Haynes. Mrs. Talbert took occasion in her address to remind the audience that the idea for the organization of a million women originated in the mind of Mrs. Helen Curtis.

The whole meeting was a magnificent outpouring and demonstration of the interest which New York City feels in the movement.

ANTI-LYNCHING CRUSADERS HAVE WHIRLWIND TOUR

Wilmington Advocate

11-18-22

HARTFORD, CONN., Nov. 11.—Mrs. Mary T. Seymour, the "live wire" of Connecticut, is having a whirlwind campaign of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders in the state. She has brought to the state a number of the best speakers obtainable and is leaving no stone unturned to put Connecticut over the top in the million-dollar campaign.

Meetings in New Britain, Hartford, Greenwich, Norwich and Stamford have this week been arranged by her and addressed by Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson, who has come over into the state to help in the campaign. The response has been instant and ready. Connecticut has been organized since August and will close the campaign on November 30.

BOSTON MASS HERALD
SEPTEMBER 30, 1922

A Lynching a Week

Fifty men, not all masked, a negro from the officers of a cou in Georgia on Thursday and lynch him. The dispatches state that th is the ninth lynching in that sta in the last sixty days.

On the other hand, a few day ago, for the first time in the histor of southeastern Georgia it i claimed, indictments were foun against five white men for the lynching of two blacks. Three of the indicted men are citizens of prominence, and one an official. The very fact that men of the dominant race were indicted at all has had wide attention throughout the country.

The one record is good, whatever may be the outcome of the murder trials that are to follow. The other record, a lynching a week for eight weeks, is shocking.

That record calls attention anew to the anti-lynching bill adopted last session by the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. In the Senate the passage of the measure depends seemingly on the question of its constitutionality. The argument for the bill proceeds thus: That the states do not give the equal protection of the law provided for in the fourteenth amendment to the constitution; that inequality in administration is a denial of equal protection of the laws; that in forcing a state to provide equal protection the federal government can act directly upon the individual responsible for its denial. That measure ought to be well debated. Perhaps it should be passed in spite of doubts that may linger in many minds and the constitutional issue left to the supreme court for decision.

NEWARK N J EVE NEWS
NOVEMBER 14, 1922

Open Crusade Here Against Lynching

National Director and Other Speakers Plead for Support of $1,000,000 Campaign.

Gifts Applied to $17,000 Quota

In an effort to raise $17,000 as Newark's quota of a $1,000,000 fund to be used for the suppression of lynching in this country, the first mass meeting of the Newark branch of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders, under the supervision of the Dyer Circle, was held last night in the Roosevelt Temple. A collection resulted in the addition of about $150 to $300 that has already been raised since the campaign began October 1. The drive, which will be centered among the colored people, will continue until the first of the year.

The principal speaker was Mrs. Mary B. Talbert of Buffalo, national director of the Crusaders, honorary president of the National Association of Colored Women and life president of the Frederick W. Douglass Memorial Association. She outlined the purposes of the organization, and explained the necessity of having the Dyer anti-lynching law passed.

It is expected, she said, that the bill will be brought up for passage by Congress November 20. Should the bill fail to pass before March 1, next, she went on, it will be reintroduced in the next Congress.

Explaining the need of the million-dollar fund, Mrs. Talbert said the anti-lynching program demands publicity, pressure upon Congress, pressure upon state legislatures, investigation and legal processes.

A newspaper publicity campaign, patterned after the Red Cross and Child Welfare campaign, is being planned, and advertisements will be inserted in newspapers throughout the country "until not a single person who reads the papers will be ignorant of the fact that we are the only country that burns human beings at the stake; that 3,436 people have been lynched," she said.

Tells Urgency of Action.

"The country must be aroused by letters, telegrams and articles to pour in upon the Senate a stream of requests for immediate action," the speaker said, explaining the second point of the program. She continued: "Our efforts to strengthen state laws must not for a moment lag. Three or four states have adequate anti-lynching laws. Campaigns must be inaugurated to secure the passage of such laws in other states. If the Dyer bill is passed, the campaign against lynching and mob violence and for legal defense has just begun, and we must immediately be ready for two things.

"Those are investigation of every case of lynching and mob violence which occurs. These investigations must be far more thorough than in the

ast, for on them we must be able to build court cases with facts and witnesses. This will mean the use of detective agencies, local investigators, documentary research, etc.

"Finally, there are the actual law cases. The Federal Government probably will attend to the actual prosecution but we must stand ready to help in the preparation of the cases, the gathering of witnesses. This means that not less than $100,000 ought to be available this moment for the anti-lynching campaign and that it will take at least $1,000,000 to stop lynching and mob violence and provide legal defense. These figures may seem large. They are not. The difficulty with us is that our ideas of the cost of emancipation have always been too small."

Mrs. Talbert emphasized that the entire amount collected will go to the anti-lynching fund, the actual expenses being met by funds raised outside of the campaign.

White Support Pledged.

Many well-known white women have indorsed the movement, she said, declaring that letters promising both moral and financial assistance have been received from Zona Gale and Margaret Deland, authors; Mrs. Louis Post of the International Council of Women, Mrs. Nathaniel Harris, honorary president of the National Council of Jewish Women, and Rosalie Jones, president of the Pen and Brush Club of New York.

Another speaker was Mrs. Helen Curtis of New York, wife of the former Ambassador to Liberia, and organizer of the crusade movement. She quoted statistics, showing the number of victims of lynching in this country. From 1889 to the first of this year, she said, there have been 3,436 known lynchings. A number of white persons were among the victims, she declared.

The chairman of the meeting was Mrs. Grace Baxter Fenderson, second grade teacher in the Monmouth street school and chairman of the Dyer Circle.

INDIANAPOLIS IND NEWS
DECEMBER 9, 1922

ANOTHER ATROCITY

Yesterday in Florida a negro, charged with the murder of a young woman school teacher, was burned at the stake. We used rather to shudder at such horrors when we read of them in history, and were disposed to take some pride and comfort in the thought that such atrocities were impossible in our day. The world had, it was felt, advanced far beyond the witchcraft and stake-burning era, and had swung into the light of a decenter and happier time. Clearly it was all a mistake, for the world had either never made the advance, or else it has suffered a frightful relapse.

America is, as far as known, the only nation on earth in which men are burned at the stake. It is shameful that it should be so, but the fact remains. All forms of lynching are disgraceful, but when to that crime are added the cruelty and torture of burning the depths of degradation are sounded. It is quite possible that the Dyer anti-lynching bill, against which a successful filibuster was recently conducted, is unconstitutional, and it may be that there was little interest in it on the part of those who supported it—rather feebly in the senate.

But surely there ought to be some power somewhere to protect citizens of the United States against such atrocities, and to defend the good name of the nation. It is not a sectional question, for there have been lynchings in the north, and a few burnings. The Herrin massacres are—or ought to be—fresh in the public mind. We have had Whitecapism in Indiana. What we have to deal with is the powerlessness—or unwillingness—of local communities to uphold the law and protect the citizen. The problem is serious. In some way it must be solved, and soon. It ought to be solved by the people of the several states, who should realize that the great principle of local self-government is being attacked by mobs, and understand that if self government fails there will have to be some other sort of government. What we have is really a war on American institutions. The town of Perry, in which this latest burning occurred, stands today disgraced in the eyes of the civilized world.

FUNNY THINGS HAPPEN AT WACO.

Houston Informer, Houston, Tex.

It seems that little old Waco, familiarly known far and near as "Barbecueville," is determined to monopolize the spotlight and hog front page publicity by some peculiar and funny crimes that always occur and recur in or near that burg. 11-25-22

The peculiar and funny part about these "heinous" crimes is that they are generally perpetrated at a given spot and the alleged "perpetrator" is invariably a "young Negro."

It seems rather strange that "young Negroes" or old ones, for that matter, are continually killing some white man and otherwise brutally assaulting and maltreating his female companion at "Lover's Leap," "Lover's Lane," "some turn in a lonely country road," or "when the car stopped because of engine trouble," etc., etc.

How does it happen that whenever only two parties are out spooning or pulling off some kind of clandestine stunt, some "burly black brute" always happens up at the psychological moment and "plays hell" (we mean havoc—same in Dutch) with the occupants of the autos?

How do these "young Negroes" know in advance when "certain persons" are going to be at "certain places" at "certain hours" on "certain nights?"

Does Waco possess mediums, clairvoyants, fortune-tellers, seers or seeresses of such uncanny wisdom and Delphic ability, that they can "tip off" these "young Negroes" regarding such outings and escapades?

In asserting or charging that the attacker or assaulter is always a "Negro," is it an attempt to "cover up" and place the crime (?) upon the most convenient and acceptable scape-goat—the usual and customary "young Negro?"

Who taught these "young Negroes" how to shoot so expertly, and why do these "young Negroes" always slay the male and leave the female of the species?

We wonder if these culprits, assassins and assaulters are "black" men or "blackened" men?

Strange things are certainly happening in this land, especially Wacoland, don't you think?

"Bull-sheeviki!" you say? Well, it is beginning to appear to a few fair-minded and thinking people of both races, that there is something terribly rotten, not in Denmark, but in old mobocratic and "hellocratic" Waco ("Barbecueville").

Let us pray, church. Selah!

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions

Individual

1003

RANGER NANCE STRAIGHTENS THE RECORD FOR DR. BUTLER.

Atlanta Independent

1107½ Washington St.,
Columbia, S. C., 8-3-'22.

Honorable Benjamin Jefferson Davis, 8-3-22
Atlanta, Georgia.

Editor Atlanta Independent:

I ask just a little space in your paper to straighten the record under the caption, "Why Should South Uphold Lynching and Mob Violence," by Dr. R. H. Butler, issue of July 27, the following appears:

"For more than fifty years lynching has been going on, until there is hardly a state in which lynching has not been done, and not a single Southern state can boast of a clean record on the subject of lynching, and yet hardly half a dozen states have passed any laws against the crime of lynching, and not a SINGLE SOUTHERN STATE HAS PASSED ANY SUCH LAW."

Now, in order that the public may know, and for the sake of keeping the record straight, I ask you to refer your readers to the Constitution of South Carolina, 1895, Article 6, Section 6, which is as follows:

"In case of any prisoner lawfully in the charge, custody or control of any officer, state, county or municipal, being seized and taken from said officer through his negligence, permission or connivance, by a mob or other unlawful assemblage of persons, and at their hands suffering bodily violence or death, the said officer shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon true bill found, shall be deposed from his office pending his trial, and upon conviction shall forfeit his office, and shall, unless pardoned by the governor, be ineligible to hold any office of trust or profit within this state. It shall be the duty of the prosecuting attorney within whose circuit or county the offense may be committed to forthwith institute a prosecution against said officer, who shall be tried in such county, in the same circuit other than the one in which the offense was committed, as the attorney general may elect. The fees and mileage of all material witnesses, both for the state and for the defense, shall be paid by the state treasurer, in such manner as may be provided by law:

"PROVIDED, In all cases of lynching when death ensues, the county where such lynching takes place shall, without regard to the conduct of the officers, be liable in exemplary damages of not less than two thousand dollars to the legal representatives of the person lynched: PROVIDED, further, That any county against which a judgment has been obtained for damages in any case of lynching shall have the right to recover the amount of said judgment from the parties engaged in said lynching in any court of competent jurisdiction."

And in conformity thereto, the legislature in 1896 passed a law against lynching, which is found in the Code of 1912, of South Carolina, Section 3947, which reads as follows:

"WHEN COUNTY LIABLE FOR DAMAGES FOR LYNCHING—MAY RECOVER FROM GUILTY PARTIES.—In all cases of lynching when death ensues the county where such lynching takes place shall, without regard to the conduct of the officers, be liable in exemplary damages of not less than two thousand dollars, to be recovered by action instituted in any court of competent jurisdiction by the legal representatives of the person lynched, and they are hereby authorized to institute such action for the recovery of such exemplary damages. A county against which a judgment has been obtained for damages in any case of lynching shall have the right to recover the amount of said judgment from the parties engaged in said lynching in any court of competent jurisdiction, and is hereby authorized to institute such action."

Now you see one Southern State at least has passed a law against lynching. I wish to inform the good Dr. Butler, that a jury of South Carolinians, presided over by some of our God-fearing judges, have given verdicts to the representatives of Negroes lynched in South Carolina.

I am informed from a reliable source that the county of Richland, in which Columbia is the county seat and capital of the state, that a lynching has never occurred.

I trust that you will give this space in your paper in order that the record as to South Carolina may be kept straight.

Yours for Law and Order,
Butler W. Nance,
Atty. at Law, Columbia, S. C.

1003

GOVERNORS AND EXTRADITION.

Montgomery Advertiser 8-8-22

The Savannah Morning News says: "Governor Hardwick is right. He should consider a request from Michigan for the extradition of a prisoner, just as if Michigan had not refused a similar request from Georgia on the ground that the Michigan governor feared the man wanted in Georgia would not be given a fair trial. Georgia does not want to be known as a State in which Michigan criminals can find protection for their crimes. Michigan's governor can be silly if he pleases, can refuse extradition requested by Georgia, can use that refusal for political purposes in a State where many people have strange ideas about Georgia; but let Governor Hardwick do his duty. If Michigan rightfully wants a man arrested in this State on a charge brought in Michigan, let not Georgia stand in the way of Michigan justice."

It should be the fixed policy of Governors to grant extradition without quibbling except in those cases where it is manifest that grave injustice would be done by handing over the prisoner. It is presumptuous, wrong and unjust for a governor to act on the theory which prompted the governor of Michigan to refuse to hand over the Georgian who had escaped to the cover of his State.

Not many men are unjustly convicted in American courts. Oftener than not defendants receive mercy at the bar. In any event the governor of Michigan is not in position to act with authority and justice in behalf of a Georgia defendant, and vice versa.

AUGUST 13, 1922

NEGROES ARE TOLD "FORCE FOR FORCE" IS LYNCHING CURE

Delegates to Racial Session Describe Horrors—Advise Resistance to Mob Attacks.

'INSANITY,' SAYS ONE, 'CAN'T BE CURED BY MAKING LAWS.'

Garvey Says Justice Will Be Gained Only by Financial and Industrial Progress.

Lynching will never be stopped by legislative enactment, and the only way to stamp out this evil is by organized force, was the consensus of delegates who yesterday discussed "Lynching and How to Prevent It," at the eleventh day's session of the convention of the Universal Negro Improvement Association in Liberty Hall, No. 120 West 138th Street.

Participating in the discussion were Negroes from the South who have witnessed lynchings and burnings at the stake, and also men and women who had been in recent race riots. The hall was in an uproar of excitement when a delegate from Oklahoma said:

"I have been living in a section where they have been lynching for more than twenty years. Lynching is a form of temporary insanity. Who can legislate against an insane man? There is but one way to stop him and that is by meeting a destructive force with organized force, by fighting fire with fire."

Yesterday's discussion assumed a serious air and at times bordered on the dramatic. At times the fervor of the speakers reminded one of an old-time camp meeting. There was no levity. There are three vital issues in the South among Negroes—lynching, disfranchisement and "Jim Crowism." The subject of lynching touches their heart-strings most.

Force to Respect Force.

Throughout the discussion the speakers deplored that in many communities in the South the legal authorities have confessed themselves helpless against the mob. Said a delegate from South Carolina:

"In my section we have been preaching and praying and begging for protection for years, but lynching goes on just the same. The only thing to do if the law cannot protect man's family and his home is for Negroes to organize to protect themselves."

A delegate now living in Chicago said he had been in three race riots, one in Houston, Tex., another in Atlanta, and was in Chicago when there was a serious clash of races a few years ago. He was apprehensive that if something was not done to stop lynching in the South there would not be many Negroes to go from the South to Africa to set up a Government.

Coming from near Jessup, Ga., where she said they lynch Negroes for the fun of it, a woman delegate declared that Georgia is known as the "lynching State;" that the class of white men who hang and burn Negroes has no respect for the law, whether enacted by the Federal or State Government. "Force will respect force," she shouted.

Tells How He Fought.

"You can't change public sentiment by legislation, and laws are not always public sentiment," said a delegate who was a victim in the East St. Louis riot, having lost his home. "Some delegates are discussing this subject without having had experience with a mob. Laws against lynching will not save you when an infuriated gang of roughs get after you. The only way to protect yourself is to keep them off by force," he said.

A white-haired delegate from Louisiana related how he found it necessary to defend himself against twelve men one night who surrounded him while on horseback and threatened to do him bodily harm for spiriting away a colored girl. He told a thrilling story of how he took the law in his own hands when he discovered his assailants had done likewise, exhibiting a scar on his neck and one on his arm as reminders of the incident.

In opening the discussion Marcus Garvey, President General of the association, said lynching will be stopped only through industrialism and acquiring a high standing in the realms of finance by the Negro on his own initiative, thereby arresting the respect and serious consideration of the world.

It was announced that on Monday's agenda the Black Star Line will be one of the chief topics for discussion.

NO CHRISTIAN CONDONATION OF LYNCHING

Literary Digest, 9-9-22

LYNCHING IS NO MORE CONDONED by the Christian people in the South than by those in any other section of the country, and the attitude of those who imply or express the belief that Southern Christians promote or approve of this evil, says *The Presbyterian*, is both wrong and unjust. In support of its statement this Northern religious journal, for it is published in Philadelphia, cites the fact that at a conference in Atlanta, Governor Dorsey, of Georgia, strongly deplored the lynching evil and all racial animosities, and quotes the statement of the Georgia Inter-racial Committee, which is composed of representatives of both races:

New York City

"We find in our hearts no extenuation for crime, be it violation of womanhood, mob violence, or the illegal taking of human life. We are convinced that if there is any crime more dangerous than another, it is that crime which strikes at the root of and undermines constituted authority, breaks all laws and restraints of civilization, substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice, and deprives society of a sense of protection against barbarism. Therefore, we believe that no falser appeal can be made to Southern manhood than that mob violence is necessary for the protection of womanhood, or that the brutal practise of lynching and burning of human beings is an expression of chivalry. We believe that these methods are no protection to anything or anybody, but that they jeopardize every right and every security that we possess."

Like expressions in regard to these racial problems can be found among Christian people everywhere, says *The Presbyterian*, and "instead of implying that such evils are endorsed, it would be better to inquire into the cause and cure of the evil." The cause, we are told, is the same as that which gives rise to labor troubles and family degeneration—the failure to remember that we are enjoined in the Scriptures to treat each other as human brothers and to do unto others as we would have them do unto us. And *The Presbyterian* believes:

"If there was prevailing among the people of our age a knowledge and reverence for the Bible as the Word of God and a rule of life, both for this world and the world to come, together with a sense of responsibility for obedience unto this rule of God, it would go far toward the correction of this evil and similar evils. Sad to say, many writers and speakers who deal with these social evils are seeking by appeal to scientific advantage and to common utility as the means of educating the people out of this social degradation. The trouble in the case is not the lack of knowledge, but the lack of motive. More information will not correct any of these social threatenings. The need is for more conscience, and that can be awakened only by a keener sense of God's requirements. These requirements are revealed in the Word of God, and especially in the moral law. But many of these humanitarian writers reject God's Word and God's Law, and encourage others to do likewise. Consequently, there is a low state of responsibility among the people, and this brood of cruelty, impurity, lynching, general murder, personal unfaithfulness, and other like evils, grow apace. The modern cultured rationalist in his rejection of the Word and law of God is doing more to break down the social life and increase the crime of our times than any other influence. We must get the people back to the Bible and submission thereunto, or these evils will wax worse and worse until there is a fatal collapse."

Sectional Comparisons Sometimes Odious

Nearly everybody will agree that sectional controversies ought to be kept out of congress. Ordinarily, there is little to be gained by members from the North and the South making odious comparisons. They tend to cool the spirit of unity that the substantial people of both the South and the North desire should prevail in the country.

Nevertheless, when some partisan gets up in congress and undertakes to reflect upon the South, there is usually some stout defender of this section to "call his hand." This happened the other day when the honorable senator from New York, Mr. Calder, presumed to criticise the lynching record of Georgia.

Boston Post

When the honorable senator from Georgia, Mr. Harris, had finished his reply to the gentleman from New York, the metropolis had been pretty well advertised to the world as the modern Sodom and Gomorrah combined.

8-23-22

The Georgia senator declared that there was more lawlessness in New York city in one week than in Georgia in a whole year, and that in certain sections of the city an individual was not safe even in the daytime. With tens of thousands of people applying for permission to carry pistols to protect themselves against the highwayman in New York, with robberies, burglaries, incendiary fires and murders an every day occurrence, Georgia compared rather favorably with New York in the matter of crime.

There is little edification for the country in senators telling about how bad the sections are from which the other hails, but the Georgia senator's rebuke to the New York senator for his attack upon the Southern State was what he might have expected. He paid the senator back in his own coin, with liberal interest.

Georgia's lynching record is not to be condoned. The Georgia senator did not apologize for the acts of Georgia mobs. But it ill became the senator from a city recognized as one of the great crime centers of the world to launch a tirade against a Southern State. Hereafter, Senator Calder will likely find it more profitable to direct his efforts at cleaning up his own house, before he undertakes to solve the problem of a Southern State by hostile criticism.

LYNCHING TALKED, NOBODY IS HANGED

Subject is Discussed at City Club's Weekly Forum in Square.

Lynching occupied the attention o Public square from noon to 1 p. m. yesterday.

No, nobody was hanged from the flagpole—but Walter F. White of New York, assistant secretary of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, brought here by the City Club as speaker at its weekly noonday forum, did talk and answer questions on the subject.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill, pending in congress, which gives federal courts power to punish members of a lynching mob when state courts take no action, and which gives the national government power to impose heavy fines on counties where lynchings take place, was the chief theme of Mr. White's address.

"In the last five years there have been 4,672 lynchings in this country," he said. "Thirty-eight have taken place in the last year. The lynchings are not confined to one section of the country, although only 10 per cent. occur outside the southern states. It is time that a federal law is passed to enforce respect for law and justice and the right of a man to fair trial, no matter what the offense."

Dozens of Questions Asked.

He answered two objections voiced in congress to the bill—that it is unconstitutional and that the chief reason for lynching was that victims have in most instances been guilty of sex crimes.

"The attorney general and judiciary committees of both houses of congress have declared it constitutional," he said. "As for the latter objection, we have found by statistics that only one-sixth of the persons lynched have ever been suspected of that sort of crime."

Mr. White asserted that the chief reason for the existence of lynching was economic, not social. Lynching, itself a form of force, was merely a means for keeping permanently terrorized a working population, he said.

Dozens of questions were put to the speaker, the following being some of the more important, and his answers:

Q.—What is the best means for enlightening the negro population in the south?

A.—Elimination of the semi-feudal system of renting farms in that section, co-operation by negroes in marketing farm products, seizure of educational opportunities by colored people.

Q.—Why does not the national administration do something toward redistricting so-called "rotten boroughs" in the south, where voting districts are not laid out naturally or are based on censuses taken years ago?

A.—Republican congressmen in the majority haven't the backbone to tackle the problem.

Q.—Why should the colored man have to follow the lead of the Republican party, regardless of whether he wants to or not?

A.—He doesn't have to. He should vote as an individual.

Q.—The Ku Klux Klan investigation in congress fizzled out because certain members of congress used their influence in favor of the Klan, did it not?

A.—That's my personal opinion. We'll never know just what did happen, but I am in favor of all efforts to eliminate the Klan. It's un-American and preys on whatever prejudice exists in certain localities of the country.

Q.—The people of the south are not in favor of an anti-lynching bill, are they?

A.—No, I understand they are not. But it's similar to a man with a cancer. He may dread having an operation, but he has to be operated on if he's to live.

Q.—Don't mobs which lynch people believe they are doing a good to the community?

A.—In all fairness it must be admitted that they do. They think it is the only means of handling certain situations which arise. But they do not realize that it is a direct violation of law and the principles of the constitution. If lynching is tolerated, the government of the United States is on an unsound basis.

Bradley Hull, head of the bureau of domestic relations of common pleas court, presided at the meeting. He announced that next week's session would be the last outdoor meeting for the year.

OPPOSE MOB VIOLENCE.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn. 9-9-22

Citizens of Birmingham Organize to Uphold the Law.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Sept. 8.—Thoroughly aroused by the numerous floggings and acts of violence by mobs of masked and unmasked men in and around Birmingham, the citizens of Birmingham have formed a committee to be headed by Colonel T. O. Smith, vice president of the Birmingham Trust & Savings Bank, for the purpose of breaking up these violations of the law and for lending assistance to the county and city authorities.

While the campaign will have a broad plan of action the crimes brought about by mobs of men trying to take the law in their own hands will be given special attention.

Col. Smith issued a statement late Wednesday afternoon. He said in part: "The time has come when the law-abiding citizens of Birmingham should voice their outraged protest at conditions which prevail. Jefferson County now ranks second in the entire United States in major crime. To be effective the campaign must come from the entire citizenship of Birmingham, no from any group. Every individual must refrain from even the smallest and most petty violation of the law, that he may be a worthy example for his neighbor.

"With that spirit and the dedication of our best efforts to the cause of good government, your committee is not apprehensive of the outcome, and believes you will readily put a stop to crime in this district and sound the death knell of the lawless element.

"Your committee, therefore, directs this appeal to Birmingham. It urges every individual who believes in good government to give his time and personal service to that end."

The campaign will be sustained as long as necessary to achieve its object. The executive committee is composed of Col. T. O. Smith, chairman; R. A. Porter, Tom Crittenden, Samuel L. Earle, I. C. Beatty, C. B. Glenn, J. P. Mudd, Tom R. McClelland, Wade Wood, J. W. Eddy, M. P. Northington, J. G. Johns, Paoli Smith and Lucien Brown.

The campaign was proposed by the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and after consulting a number of the leading citizens held a called meeting, at which Col. Smith was unanimously chosen chairman. The executive committee will meet once each week for the formulation of plans. The funds for carrying on the movement will be derived from popular subscription.

Lynchings— 1922. (1) 985 Individuals.
Discussion.

An Anti-Lynching Program For the State of Georgia

Rev. M. Ashby Jones, Chairman Georgia State Committee on Race Relations, Discusses Vital Questions.

SAVANNAH GA NEWS
JUNE 30 1922

BY REV. M. ASHBY JONES.

Chairman Georgia Committte Race Relations.

Thirty years ago, in 1892, Gov. Northen, in his message to the General Assembly, stated that there was too much lynching in Georgia, and in speaking of lynching said:

"These self-constituted judges and executioners are more than murderers. They have not only taken human life without authority or excuse, but they have put before their fellow citizens an example, which, if followed to any extent, would speedily result in the dissolution of society itself. It becomes the General Assembly to consider and provide the proper remedy for this evil by legislation.

"Surely your coming together (as legislators), were worse than idle, and the machinery of justice a hollow and expensive mockery, if your will, after being crystallized into solemn statutes, to be read of all men can be condemned and trampled upon."

Three years later, Gov. W. Y. Atkinson said: "Lynching is wrong. The state has no right to permit its officers to take charge of a man, render him powerless to protect himself, and while in this helpless condition, in the custody of the state, permit him to be taken by an armed mob and maltreated or murdered."

In 1898 Gov. Atkinson again called attention to mob outrages stating:

"The democratic platform in 1896 declared in favor of legislation (for the suppression of lynching) and I respectfully call attention to the fact that this pledge is yet unfulfilled."

Since that date practically every governor of Georgia has hinted or plead for legislation which will strengthen the law enforcement machinery. A. D. Candler, Hoke Smith, John M. Slaton, Nat. E. Harris, and Hugh Dorsey, have all been outspoken on this subject. And the theory of our present Governor is that the law must protect the humblest negro cabin in the state as well as the richest mansion.

The Georgia Bar Association has also frequently discussed this subject, especially in 1897, 1899, 1908, 1910, and 1916. In all their discussions not one single apologist for lynching has come forward. Reasons for lynchings have been advanced, but no justification offered. Our most respected attorneys and jurists are one in condemning lynching.

Recently, the introduction of the Dyer anti-lynching bill in Congress has placed practically every Southern congressman on record as opposed to lynching, but favoring state, rather than federal action in abating the evil. In opposing this bill, Judge C. H. Brand of the Eighth Georgia district said:

"The people of Georgia are opposed to lynching. The courts, the press, the pulpit, the bar of the state, are a unit in opposition to lynching in all its forms."

The discussions of the Dyer bill have, indeed, confirmed this summary of sentiment in the state. But is this sentiment effective? What has been the result of these requests of governors, impassioned appeals of the most brilliant members of the Bar Association, the press and pulpit? Let the figures speak. In the seven years before Gov. Northern's message, 88 people were lynched in Georgia, or an average of one a month. During the thirty years since his message, 353 have been lynched, or an average of one a month. All the continued requests for action have not brought from the Legislature the appropriation of one cent, or the addition of one effective law on the statute books. Two reactions are usually obtained. Either the man who pleads for action on the basis of the facts is condemned for giving publicity to facts damaging to the reputation of the state, for washing dirty linen in public, or his hearers exclaim pessimistically: Nothing more is possible than is now done. The silly ostrich with his head in the sand is no more ineffective than those who would keep silence. The pessimists should be made to look around at what other states have done. Now can they prove that nothing further can be done when nothing further has been tried?

This paper is not written with the intention of unduly criticising Georgians or Georgia officials. It is an effort to face the facts in order that we may judge intelligently the measures which should be taken. In number of lynchings per 100,000 inhabitants, Georgia shows up worse than some states and better than several. But this does not excuse Georgia. She should stand highest. Georgia is here compared with other states which have adopted anti-lynching measures, with the view of testing the efficiency of these measures and the hope that some similar constructive action may be arrived at. Georgians can gain some knowledge of the best method to pursue by observing the actions of others who have been more or less similarly placed.

But, to rid our body politic of this festering sore, abhorred by all straight thinking leaders to cleanse ourselves from lynching, it is necessary to examine some of the reasons why lynching continues. These reasons are set out here, not with the view of excusing or extenuating lynching, for too many excuses have been offered and not enough action taken, and excuses are not milestones on the road of progress. But to combat lynching, it is necessary to examine certain reasons for its continuance, not as excuses, but as facts.

Undoubtedly the first reason for the continuance of lynching is that there are some people, a very small minority, yet in some sections of the state, a compact body of lynchers, who extenuate lynching by false, muddle-headed reasoning, feeling that what they do, they do as benefactors of the community. We recognize their grounds in the beginning, and false as they are, realize how, to the mind swept by passion and not sufficiently restrained by a respect for legal institutions, these may appear sufficient reasons. But we ourselves recognize no sufficient reason for snatching a helpless victim from the officers of the law, depriving him of any sort of fair trial and maiming, burning, slaying him. This is more than an attack on a criminal, it is an attack on the law itself, on civilization, and no reason justifies such abasement of legal processes.

Let us in the outset examine the principal false reasons advanced by conversational advocates of lynching, who, by the way, never put their specious arguments into print.

First. They say that lynching is a source of revenge for certain facts, and therefore a sure balm for the feelings of the family of the victim, that courts are slow and sometimes release guilty criminals. There are but two straight questions which lynchers should be made to answer on this point, namely: Who is more likely to make a mistake, a court with its deliberations safeguarded by the rules based on the experience of the administration of justice for many centuries, or a mob which, in the heat of passion, on the spur of the moment, answers the call of blood lust from some over-excited individual who cannot possibly have due respect for society and legal institutions? The other question is: Even if the feelings of the family of the victim can be materially assuaged by sudden revenge, has not the community some rights in the matter? Is it not better that a few individuals suffer temporarily than that the ideal of justice for all and protection under legal institutions be forever trampled under foot? The fair-minded man who attempts to answer these two questions will see that this first reason is no adequate excuse for the brutality of lynching.

Second. The lynchers claim that in certain cases lynching is an act of chivalry, a protection of an innocent victim from undue publicity. Here again there are two objections to such specious reasoning. In the first place only one fourth of the lynchings in the United States are for rape, the others for murder, theft, slapping a white man, etc. In the second place, even in case of rape, it should be evident to anyone who gives this statement a second thought that there is far less unsavory publicity connected with an orderly trial, where the court room is cleared as far as possible of the idly curious and the newspapers persuaded to reticence, than is connected with a howling mob of from 500 to 2,000 blood-thirsty individuals who awake the country-side and whose actions are not only chronicled in the local paper, but also in big head lines from Maine to San Francisco, and even in foreign journals. Can there be any falser idea than that a lynching protects the victim from publicity? On this point our own Georgia women's committee on race relations has given us straight thinking expressed in no uncertain terms:

"We find in our hearts no extenuation for crime, be it violation of womanhood, mob-violence, or the illegal taking of human life.

"We are convinced that if there is any one crime more dangerous than another it is that crime which strikes at the root of and undermines constituted authority, breaks all laws, and restraints of civilization, substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice; and deprives society of a sense of protection against barbarism.

"Therefore we believe that no falser appeal can be made to Southern womanhood or that the brutal practice of lynching and burning human beings is an expression of chivalry. We believe that these methods are no protection to anything or anybody, but that they jeopardize every right and every security that we possess."

As false as this reasoning is we must, however, recognize that a number of people in the state have had their minds on this subject sufficiently muddled to constitute a body of lynchers who are, in certain localities persistently successful in obtaining their victims from duly constituted officers of the law, wreaking their brutal vengeance and thereby weakening the whole fabric of our legal machinery and bringing the name of the state into disrepute.

This fact we must face; viz. that Georgians have in the past 37 years lynched 439 people, an average of about 12 per year. How does this correspond with the record of other states?

First let us take the case of the West. Here lynching has been practically abolished. Various attempts have been made to trace the origin of lynching to Ireland, England, Virginia, Pennsylvania, the West, etc. Violent vengeance by relatives or friends of a victim, however, dates back to savagery. It antedates court procedure by a few thousand years, and consequently cannot be said to have been originated at any particular place in America. The blood-thirsty Red Skin practiced it before the coming of Columbus, but when the white men arrived he had become almost too civilized to visit punishment within the tribe by this method. It is certain, however, that the first section to indulge in numerous hangings of this type was the Western frontier of 1840 to 1870, although some of the burnings of witches in New England were practically lynchings. Here again lynching antedated the courts and disappeared as the courts were organized and strengthened, as public sentiment became more enlightened on the subject, and as state governments become stronger. California, Washington, Oregon, Nevada, Arizona, Idaho, Montana, the Dakotas, and even their Middle Western neighbors, Iowa, Illinois and Ohio appealed to lynch law rather frequently immediately before and just after the Civil War. From this region this custom spread to the South during reconstruction days when courts were disorganized and discredited. This is not mentioned as an extenuation of lynching in the South, rather it is stated to show that the conditions which originally gave rise to lynch law have long since passed. With the passing of these conditions lynching died out in the West, but it has held on in the South because it has had color prejudice behind which to skulk, and the deep passionate instincts of race purity to keep it alive.

If, however, more enlightened public opinion, greater respect for local courts, and stronger state machinery have proven effective in the West, there is every reason to believe that they can be invoked to good advantage in Georgia. In this state public opinion is not essentially more difficult to enlighten, local courts more difficult to strengthen, or the state machinery more difficult to provide than in others. Leadership is, however, essential. Stiff-necked opposition to the fallacies of lynchers by the lovers of the law is necessary. To furnish this is the duty of every citizen. The West has not been alone in banishing lynching. Certain of the Southern neighbors of Georgia have made truly remarkable progress in this respect and bid fair to leave Georgia behind unless the Empire State begins immediate action.

Compare the record of 430 lynchings, or 12 per year in Georgia with 126, or about 4 per year in South Carolina. Compare with Virginia and North Carolina with 77 and 75 lynchings respectively, an annual average of 2. South Carolina with almost as many negroes as Georgia has only a third the number of lynchings. Virginia and North Carolina with over half the number of negroes in Georgia have one-sixth the number of lynchings. Within the past three years Tennessee has had only one lynching, and the people of Alabama have also made remarkably praiseworthy progress in abolishing lynching in that state.

There are reasons for this difference which Georgians must face:

First. In some of these states, there is probably a larger proportion of high minded people who are not afraid to speak or act against lynchers; this is fundamental.

Second. In Georgia, local self-government has been carried to extremes. The counties are more independent than those in the other states—more like little empires. The isolated, rural county where the sheriff is perhaps very friendly with some of the members of the mob, and where the population is sparse and scattered, is the weak link in our chain of law enforcement. This is true of enforcement of many other laws such as prohibition, stock and even tax laws.

Third. In other states, particularly in South Carolina, Alabama and Florida, and recently in Kentucky and Tennessee, special state action is provided in case of mob violence. In Georgia we leave the initiation of action entirely to the county which has been swept by prejudice and seared by the fires of passion. These other states provide variously for action by state police, fine of the county permitting a lynching, removal of the sheriff by the governor, and impeachment of the sheriff by the Supreme Court. These measures have proven helpful. No one of them alone will stop lynching, but all of them help. We have none of these provisions in Georgia.

Before the adoption of her anti-lynching provision in the constitution of 1901, the average number of lynchings in Alabama was 12 per year, the same as the number in Georgia, but since the adoption of that provision their average has dropped to 5 per year, while ours has continued at 12. Even this provision has been recently strengthened and the average has fallen to about two per year. South Carolina averaged five lynchings per year before the adoption of their constitution of 1895, and have averaged only 3.4 per year since that date. Since the installation of the state police and the courageous use of this body by Gov. Roberts of Tennessee three years ago, there has been only one lynching in Tennessee, and this man was killed before he ever came into the hands of duly constituted officers. In face of these facts is it possible to say that nothing can be done in Georgia?

Nor have all the counties in Georgia succumbed to the sway of lynch law. Since 1900, three-fourths of the lynchings have been in thirty-five counties. The others have been scattered in fifty-eight counties, and sixty-seven counties have never resorted to this brutal practice at all.

With these facts before us we are in a position to give a more complete answer to our first question as to why lynching continues in Georgia. This

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answer is that in a small proportion of the counties of the state, there is a violent minority who do not think truly on this subject, who have not had leaders with the knowledge or courage to change their thinking, and whose local county officers are too subservient to oppose their actions, and against whose actions the people of the law-abiding, God fearing counties of the state are powerless because there is no state machinery to stop them.

Thus is implied the answer to the other two questions: Viz, what should be done to stop lynching and who should do it?

It is evident that success will depend upon prompt and courageous local action, and efficient and well thought-out state action. The local leaders in counties suffering from lynching are the ones most capable of creating the change in public sentiment which is necessary, and of giving the constituted local authorities the support which they need in the face of the mob. (See the Athens plan below.) Every law-abiding citizen of the state who, in the words of our present Governor, wishes the law to protect the humblest negro cabin as well as the greatest mansion in the state, must be interested in the passage of such laws as will enable the state to give adequate assistance to the individual counties.

Suggestions.

State Action—There is already a sufficient number of laws against murder, riotous assemblage, and conspiracy, to make each active member of a mob subject to indictment. The trouble comes in the difficulty in indicting in the atmosphere of the county over which such a wave of passion has passed, leaving partisans not only among the spectators and jurors, but sometimes even upon the bench. Provision for a change of venue is the only method of avoiding this passion charged atmosphere which inevitably shapes the testimony of witnesses and the verdict of juries. In several states this is provided, and in Alabama, a solicitor may be transferred by the attorney general and a judge by the chief justice of the state in order to try the case. It will, however, prove very difficult to secure such a provision from the Georgia Legislature because it will take a constitutional amendment.

First. Such a provision is necessary before lynchers can be convicted, and a few convictions will be necessary before lynching is finally stamped out where it has become the habitual reaction of the rougher element to certain situations.

Second. By far more, however, can be done by preventing mobs from lynching, than by convicting lynchers. Once effectively balk a mob of its purpose with a determined show of authority, and the cause of law and order in that county is advanced more than by a dozen ineffectual attempts to convict lynchers. It is evident that the sheriff is the officer who can best do it. A determined sheriff can stop almost every mob short of the accomplishment of its purpose. He has the whole citizenry of the county at his disposal. One sheriff is known to have stopped a mob by deputizing its leaders to help protect the prisoner and letting them know that he would hold them responsible. Another informed the mob that the jail doors were open to them, but that the prisoner had a riot shotgun in his cell. A powerful water hose is an excellent means of dispersing a crowd. In short there are a dozen ways open to a resourceful, determined sheriff. For this reason most preventive laws are aimed at strengthening the hands of the sheriff, and providing penalties for the non-performance of his duties.

In Kentucky, West Virginia, South Carolina and Florida, the Governor can remove a sheriff who has permitted a lynching. In these states lynching has been reduced by this penalty. The weakness of such provision, however, lies in the tendency of some governors who, unable to rise above partisan politics, remove their enemies and allow their friends to remain in office.

This is obviated by the provision of the Alabama constitution for the impeachment of sheriffs before the Supreme Court. The proceedings may be initiated either by the Governor, the attorney general, or the judge of the Circuit Court. Still another law, now pending, makes it mandatory for the judge of the Circuit Court to report all lynchings to the attorney general and, in case the prisoner has actually been taken from a sheriff, deputy, or jailor, the attorney general must bring impeachment proceedings against that officer.

It is suggested that at the proper time the citizens endeavor to secure a similar provision for Georgia.

Third. In strengthening the work of local sheriffs a state police force, for use especially against criminal bands which operate in several counties, such as mobs, violators of the prohibition act, and automobile thieves, is of great value. Tennessee's only anti-lynching statute provides for such a force and they have practically stopped lynching as well as proving a valuable aid to law enforcement all along the line.

It is suggested that when the financial condition of the state is improved the citizens try to secure a similar provision for Georgia.

Local Action—In addition to such aid as they may be able to render later in securing the passage of adequate state laws, the local race relations committees can be of great service in creating sentiment, and, sometimes in actually preventing a lynching. There is a great value in getting the leaders of the organizations in the community to think right on this subject. This can best be done at local meetings where all the facts are faced and the remedies discussed.

A fine example of efficient local action may be cited in the organization recently effected in Clarke county. This cannot be too strongly recommended to other counties. Recently a negro was arrested for murder in that county, and the sheriff took him to Atlanta for safe-keeping. This nettled some of the men of the town. The Kiwanis Club discussed it and they decided that they could protect Clarke county prisoners, so they took the initiative in forming a citizens organization for that purpose. Twelve companies were organized, each with a captain who kept the names and phone numbers of his men. The sheriff was requested to bring the prisoner back, and the names of the prominent citizens in the twelve companies signed to a published statement that they intended to spend time at the jail to protect him. Of course, nothing happened. Under these circumstances a mob will not form, for the people know that the most respected men in the community will stand out against any attempt at violence.

It is strongly recommended that such action be taken in as many communities as possible. The organizations which should be interested in co-operating are the local posts of the American Legion, the Rotary, Kiwanis, Civitan, Lions Clubs, Community Councils, churches, women's clubs and mission societies.

VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

SOME MORE INCONSISTENCIES.

Last week we called attention to some inconsistencies of Senator Borah and the New York "World" on the Anti-Lynching Bill. We now wish to point out the position of President Harding, as expressed in his letter to the Governors of the several states, with regard to federal interference in the coal strike and compare it with the interest shown by the administration regarding the effort to have the Federal Government secure to each citizen his constitutional guarantee of a trial by due process of law when accused of crime. New York Age 7-29-22

The President's letter to the Governors was upon the very important subject of the steps necessary even to the extent of employing the federal power to protect each man in his right to work in safety. By a very slight change in the wording—a change which would in no way affect the sense of what the President wrote—his letter might have applied with equal force to the lynching situation. Here is the last paragraph of that letter:

> It becomes necessary, therefore, in the name of common welfare, to invite protection in the fulfillment of that obligation, which attaches to an American industry engaged in providing any public necessity and to afford security to all men alike who are ready and willing to work and serve the common need. No cause is so important as that of common welfare and there must be the suppression of every unlawful hindrance to the service of that cause. To the task of lawful protection and the maintenance of order that Federal government pledges to you every assistance at its command.

The President feels that it is absolutely necessary to protect men in their right to work even if they are strikebreakers and it takes the United States army to protect them, but how much more important and fundamental it is to protect men in their right to life and trial by due process of law when accused of crime.

SPRINGFIELD M. REPUBLICAN
JULY 3, 1922

STOP THE LYNCHINGS

To the Editor of The Republican:—

One horrible case of lynching follows another, yet the Dyer antilynching bill is still hung up in the United States Senate.

The chief difficulty seems to be the fear that it might be thrown out as unconstitutional by the United States supreme court. The constitution of the United States says (article 3) that the supreme court shall have original jurisdiction in all cases affecting embassadors and consuls, and those in which a state is a party; and that it shall have appellate jurisdiction in other cases, "with such exceptions and under such regulations as the Congress shall make."

Congress lately passed a law against rent-profiteering in the District of Columbia, and added a clause saying: "This law shall not be subject to review by the supreme court, and the supreme court shall have no jurisdiction over it."

If our congressmen can do this when they are themselves inconvenienced by high rents, they might do it when their fellow creatures are inconvenienced by being buried alive.

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL.
Dorchester, June 30, 1922.

Lynchings—1922
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NEW ORLEANS LA ITEM
SEPTEMBER 14, 1922

WE CONCLUDE with a suggestion:

When Governor Parker sends the attorney general and the National Guard to Moorehouse parish and camps them around Mer Rouge, let him add to the objects of their activities those who attempted the assassination of Mayor McKoin as well as those who wore the "black hoods."

Two wrongs have never yet made a right, even though the second one takes the guise of reprisal for the first. The doers of each wrong ought to be caught—and punished.

Keep this in mind: The attempted midnight assassins of Dr. McKoin were plainly criminals, striking back to defend criminal activities. They were persons from whom assaults upon Society were to be expected. Some like them will exist in all communities, to the end of time.

The "black hoods," in guise of reprisal, did that which was, in effect to substitute themselves for all the organized and established machinery of Society, set up through the ages for its defense.

Hard as it is for indignant persons to realize it sometimes, such attempts at substitution, such applications of "lynch law," threaten Society more than do sporadic outbreaks of stark criminality.

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussion

West Virginia.

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WHEELING W. VA REGISTER
JULY 15, 1922

Lynchings And Other Crimes

Lynchings are at all times regrettable and a disgrace to any community. Mob violence is always to be abhorred especially when those who wreck their vengeance upon some poor, unfortunate and defenseless negro go unpunished as is too often the case in the South, but those who attempt to make political capital out of the fact that lynchings do occur south of the Mason and Dixon line are not helping matters.

All the crime in the country is not confined to the South, and the Dyer lynch bill has no more right on the federal statute books than a similar one covering murder in New York or shootings in West Virginia or Illinois coal fields.

Of those who would legislate against crime in section other than that from which they come is Senator Calder Republican, New York. He criticised in the Senate the authorities of Georgia who failed to prevent lynching The criticism probably was deserved, (it always is in such cases), but according to Senator Harris, of Georgia the New Yorker offered it only for political purposes as he is a candidate for re-election in his state. Senator Harris replied that Senator Calder should concern himself with crime in New York and leave Georgia alone, declaring that more crime occurs there in one week than in Georgia in a whole year, and he is right. But despite this well known fact, the people of New York and the newspapers in particular are forever harping on the "uncivilized," barbarian" and "lawless" conditions that exist in West Virginia and other states when labor troubles have been experienced. Although living in a glass house, New York delights in throwing stones.

Lynchings—1922. Alabama (Negro press) 987

Discussion.

BOLD EFFORT MADE FOR A LYNCHING IN ALABAMA

Birmingham Reporter 9-8-22

Birmingham and Jefferson County are evidently made up of men an women of strong character, broad vision and Christian principles, cool-headed fair-minded, considerate leadership. Several efforts have been made for race riot and a lynching for Birmingham in the past few years and these e forts have been intercepted because of the characters representing this distric and the strong race relations that exist here, and even with this fortitude, w must draw the lines tighter and discourage the attitude of some of our agen cies, or we cannot maintain the fair name and fine spirit that now exists.

The boldest attempt to provoke a lynching and start race trouble was i the effort of one H. S. Cook, a steward on train No. 3, from Nashville, Tenn Sunday, when he reported to officers here that W. E. Hayes, of Decatur, waiter on the dining car, had attacked violently a young white woman, and th Birmingham Age-Herald published it on the front page with streaming headlines, giving it the most pronounced position possible and making Hayes' position the most brutal, daring and inhuman of any yet perpetrated upon human society and the fair sex of the Southland. And these stories continued in the Age-Herald, notwithstanding the available facts and Hayes' own statement as published in the Birmingham News. The conductor on the train and the train crew, deny any trouble ever happened on the train with Hayes and a white woman or anybody else. These facts are available. A single paragraph in the Age-Herald makes this declaration:

"Conquered at the hands of H. S. Cook, Pullman conductor, after he had attempted to criminally assault a prominent young Montgomery woman on Louisville & Nashville train No. 3 en route from Nashville to Birmingham, W. E. Hayes, Negro waiter, was taken from the passenger train shortly after noon, when it reached Birmingham, and placed in the city jail."

And other expressions therein, is enough to fire the most sainted minister of the gospel to arms and violence, when, according to the story of Hayes, the story of the conductor and the story of the train crew, and the reputation and character of the man and his family, not the slightest of such a thing has happened, not a person on the train has been aroused, not a single assault made nor any corruption indulged in.

And here is where lynchings start, and here is the main method of making race trouble. God forbid that any man would become so angered or so prejudiced to a struggling Negro who is working for an honest livelihood, to engulf a city or state in carnage, sorrow, destruction of life and property simply because he is angry with a Negro man and is able to get the sanction of newspapers and their disposition to parade the fault, when, as a matter of fact, no crime has been committed and no assault made. None of the citizens of Decatur could believe this, white or black, and certainly none of the citizens of Birmingham could believe a sober Southern Negro would behave in such a fashion. It was unusual, far from the practice, foreign to his teaching, dissimilar to any conduct of human kind—a Negro forcing himself upon a white woman in the broad daylight, where the entire car is of white men and women, is unthinkable. It didn't happen. And for white men to allow a Negro to attempt an attack on a white woman and bring him all the way from Cullman County to Jefferson County alive when they could simply have dropped him out of one of the windows and that would have been sufficient, had there been anything to the charges of assault, it is uncustomary and far from the practice of white men.

But for the character and life of young Hayes and the reputation of his family there might have been a lynching at Cullman. But when Hayes was carried to Cullman, he was carried among a number of his friends, those who knew more about him than did S. H. Cook, steward on the train, who wanted him lynched.

Hayes' statement is in another column of this paper, as well as the statement of S. H. Cook, the steward. These inflammatory efforts to destroy a race, strip it of its character, wound it for advancement, destroy its friendly relation, cannot continue; somebody will answer somewhere and at some time for this. Those in power and with agencies to do might continue the nefarious practices, and the race may suffer many sorrows and pains because of these practices, but in time we all must reap what we sow.

Newspaper reporters might do well to think of human life and the peace and prosperity of a city, a community, a state and section when they throw to the breeze false reports and inflammatory utterances that might bring on lynchings and race troubles. Hayes might have been lynched; he may be lynched yet, but he will be among the many thousands of innocent Negroes destroyed because some impassionate, prejudiced and thoughtless white man desired it done.

Our relations are too strong here; we have kept together too well to be destroyed now by a newspaper reporter or some head waiter traveling through the community who happened to grow angry with a Negro and in his passion makes false utterances that might injure the entire state and nation.

"ANTI-LYNCHING CRUSADERS."

By Williams Pickens.

Birmingham Reporter

What will Mary D. Talbert do next? What next will the colored American woman do under her leadership?

An organization has been effected by colored women to get ONE MILLION WOMEN of all kins and colors united by December 1st, 1922, against lynching. These women are to be asked to put down at least one dollar each as a fighting fund against lynching. 9-23-22

Look out, Mr. Lyncher!

This class of women generally get what they go after.

The organization is to cover the whole United States. Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, 521 Michigan avenue, Buffalo, N. Y., is the National Director of the movement, Miss Mary E. Jackson, of Providence, R. I., is National Organizer. Each state is to have its Director, and each town or locality its "key woman."

The women will begin with prayer at a sunrise, and end with prayer at a sunset—in between they will do a much more sweaty work than praying.

And this organization is not creating any positions or emoluments for anybody. It is to disband as soon as its campaign is over—and Mrs. Talbert is serving for NOTHING, absolutely nothing, but to get the job done. And each State Director is to be paid in the same kind of thankless coin—the satisfaction of noble deed well done.

Of course, there should not be a colored American woman from the wash pot to the university who will not want to "count one" in this crusade. And every white woman from Mrs. Woodrow Wilson and Mrs. Warren G. Harding down to those who watch Negroes burn in Texas, can afford to join it. They will all be publicly and many of them privately, asked to be honored in this effort of womankind.

This idea originated with a group of women in New York. It is the greatest effort of Negro womanhood in a generation, and if it succeeds even by one tenth, it will be also the greatest achievement.

BIRMINGHAM MEETING CONDEMNS FLOGGINGS

Montgomery Advertiser 9-14-22

Attorney Refuses to "Bridle Tongue" as Warned

FEAR RED CONDITIONS

One Hundred and Ten Homicides in Eight Months

(Associated Press)

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Sept. 13.—Calling upon Birmingham citizens to aid public officials in suppressing crime in the city, speakers before a mass meeting of the newly organized Law Observance and Enforcement League today warned their hearers that either mob violence must be suppressed or the nation faces conditions similar to those in Russia and Turkey.

The meeting today was the result, leaders fo the law enforcement movement declared, of a series of floggings and mob violnce in the Birmingham district during the past eight months. The guilty parties in all of these cases have escaped the hand of the law, it is said.

C. P. Beddow, local attorney, who was the principal speaker at the mass meeting, declared that he had been warned to "bridle his tongue," and read the following anonymous letter, which he declared he had received following the announcement that he was to speak today:

"We hope you will bridle your tongue and say nothing against what you know to be necessary to maintain white supremacy in our Southland.

"Mr. Blank."

"If you mean by white supremacy that negroes should be persecuted," Mr. Beddow declared, assuming that the author of the note was in the audience, "you are barking up the wrong tree. I believe the negro should have equal justice before the law. I don't believe in imposing a heavy penalty on a negro for shooting craps, and freeing the white murderer."

His statement was met with an outburst of applause.

Mr. Beddow declared there had been 110 homicides in Jefferson county during the first eight months of the present year, and called upon citizens attending the meeting to serve on juries and aid the officials in bringing the offenders into the courts.

Local law enforcement officers were praised by the speakers, but it was declared that their numbers are too few to meet the present need.

Announcement was made that the law enforcement league would receive applications for membership, and citizens attending the meeting were urged to join.

BIRMINGHAM PEOPLE FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Commercial Appeal

Mass Meeting Denounces Recent Floggings in City.

9-14-22

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NEW HAVEN CONN UNION
NOVEMBER 17, 1922

T COME TRUTH

In on tier towns of Mexico, a few weeks was lynched. The crime of which he was brutal in the extreme, but the lyn course, was unjustified. It was, acc Universal of Mexico City, the first to Spanish America, and the intimation i y made by El Universal's editorial con that the shameful outrage happened except in a locality near enough to the United States to have been affected by the environment. "Let us do every thing possible,' says El Universal, "to redeem the shameful wrong into which the frontier town fell—for its own good we will not record its name. Let us join to stem that invasion of barbarity which threatens us. If we desire to learn something from the United States, let us not choose precisely the most repulsive and uncivilized of the customs of its lower classes". Bitter words, but we deserve them.

(1)

WOMEN ANTI-LYNCHING CRUSADE IN NEW YORK

New York

From headquarters of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders, it was announced by Mrs. J. W. Johnson of 2311 Seventh avenue that the call to a sunrise prayer-meeting on Sunday, October 1, for the purpose of praying for the wiping out of the evil of lynching, was generally observed in churches throughout the country. 10-7-22

The movement is projected for the purpose of bringing about the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, passed by the House of Representatives, but left unacted on by the Senate, during the recent session of Congress.

Many prominent white women are cooperating. Miss Zona Gale, author and playwright, has promised to furnish the names of two thousand women she thinks will be in sympathy with the movement.

The Guaranty Trust Company of New York has consented to serve as depository for the Million Dollar Fund which is to be raised from one million women, each of whom is to contribute $1 to the fund.

(1)

A MOST COWARDLY AND INHUMAN ACT COMMITTED UPON DR. A. J. STOKES, OF MONTGOMERY

If American civilization and law were not attacked most cruelly and cowardly by the Montgomery mob, there is nothing like cowardice.

The mob sets itself up as brave and daring, facing death to revenge its savage passion. Its purpose is always to teach the Negro that there is no limit to a white man's privilege, and he is to decide what an assault is and who is committing it. That a man must protect his life, and is lawfully in his rights when he does it, is not to be practiced by black folks. This is another lesson that the mob intends to teach, that the law is made for black people to obey and respect, and not for white people.

Terrell may be guilty of wilfully shooting an officer of the law. All of us, sensible and otherwise, deplore such a thing and want the man punished, and he will be punished. Every white man knows that; every Negro knows it, and every one of us know that if there is the slightest evidence against Terrell he will be hanged. There will be little question as to whether he was justified in the act. Then, why the mob?—to teach as stated in the foregoing utterances.

Birmingham Reporter

Dr. A. J. Stokes forms another example of the mob's bravery. A man who has lived in Montgomery nearly forty years, who has built well, served the community and State, one of the foremost ministers in the country, has accumulated in Montgomery, pays big taxes to support the schools and officers of that city and county; he was met on the road, en route to one of his farms out from Montgomery, by a bunch of white men, who surrounded his car and, with pointed revolvers, ordered him to hold up his hands and give up whatever weapons he had. They robbed him of his revolver and then ordered him back to Montgomery, and with his back to them—brave sons they are—they fired some thirty-odd shots at him, one striking the back of his head, causing a very painful wound. 10-7-22

Think of a white man, with all the laws in his hands, with the schools, taking advantage of an old man of at least seventy years, firing after him, and for what purpose? Simply to shoot and kill a Negro, to hear him wail and groan. And under the spell, they set themselves up as the first citizens of the land! It is puzzling heartrending and sad to know that such things can exist in a civilized country.

There is an end to it. It will come one day, and through a channel, perhaps, that none of us can see at present. Patience, forbearance, is the watchword of the Negro. Long-suffering, steady driving will bring our cause to light, and the laws made for the American people will be considered as laws for the American Negro as well. The mob is the most cowardly set of animals God has allowed to exist, and unless the white man of America chooses another way there cannot be peace, there will not be prosperity. The Negro is fast coming to the point that if there is such a thing as heaven, he would just as soon go now as to wait for old age and be butchered up like the sainted old soul, Dr. A. J. Stokes. He is not quite so afraid of dying as he used to be. It will be a sad day in our American States when the Negro, through any kind of organized effort, fully decides that the laws made by the American white man offers him no protection.

Lynchings — 1922
Discussions.

Delaware (Negro Press)

1009

Director of Anti-Lynching Crusaders of New York Sends Congratulations

Wilmington Del. Wilmington Advocate

New York City, Nov. 11, 1922.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Nelson, The Wilmington Advocate, Wilmington, Del.

My Dear Friends: Accept my congratulations upon the wonderful victory which you have put over in your state in relegating to the "fireside" those enemies of the race, who persisted in working against the best interest of our racial group. 11-18-22

Yours truly,
Mrs. Helen Curtis.
New York State Director of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders.

National Executive Committee of Anti-Lynching Crusaders Meet

Wilmington Advocate Wilmington, Del. 11-18-22

NEW YORK, Nov. 11—The National Executive Committee of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders met in the Harlem Branch of the New York Public Library today. There was a full attendance of the committee, with the exception of Miss M. E. Jackson, of Providence. The session, which was one of intensive and continuous work, lasted from 11 to 5 o'clock in the morning Dr. W. E. D. DuBois came as a representative of the N. A. A. C. P. and informally addressed the members. Those present were the president, Mrs. May B. Talbert, of Buffalo; Mrs. Butler R. Wilson, Boston; Mrs. Sallie S. Fitz Allen, Sambridge, Mass.; Mrs. May Townsned Seymour, Hartford, Conn.; Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson, Delaware; Mrs. Lottie Cooper, Mrs. Grace Fenderson, Mrs. Geneveive Cannon, of New Jersey; Miss Jessie Fausett, Mrs. Lillian Alexander, Mrs. Grace Nail Johnson, Mrs. Laura Rolloch, Mrs. Elnah Rochon Boutte, Mrs. Nina DuBois, Mrs. Lillian Ray Walter, and Mrs. Helen Curtis, of New York.

REPORT MADE ON MOBS

Montgomery Ala. Ala.

Less Than Third of Victims Are Negroes

(Associated Press)

NEW YORK, Nov. 21—More than 800 persons were victims of mob violence in this country in the period from September 1, 1920 to June, 1922, the American Civil Liberties Union Reported today. The unions figures included 85 lynchings, 51 tar and feather cases; 127 floggings and the remainder forcible mob deportations.

Five of the victims were women and less than a third of the whole were negroes. 11-22-22

The report explaining that the figures were incomplete, said that most of the cases occurred in the South and southwest with the others sprinkled in the far and middle west.

800 Mob Victims in 2 Years

Wilmington Delaware Wilmington Del. 10-2

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—More than 800 persons were victims of mob violence in this country from September 1, 1920, to June 1, 1922, the American Civil Liberties' Union reported today. 11-2-22

The union's figures included eighty-five lynchings, fifty-one tar-and-feather cases, 127 floggings and the remainder forcible mob deportations. Five of the victims were women and less than a third of the whole were Negroes. The report said that most of the cases occurred in the South and Southwest.

Lynchings - 1922
Discussion

Negro Press (D.C.)

876

A REPRODUCTION FROM A SOUTHERN DAILY AGAINST LYNCHING

Washington Eagle 3/4/22

We are delighted to reproduce an editorial taken from the Greensboro Daily News of Greensboro, N. C., under date of February 25. We regard this the strongest denunciation of lynching and lawlessness that has ever reached our columns.

WHAT LYNCHING MEANS IN THE SOUTH.

The governor will not humiliate the state, he declares, by sending witnesses to testify for it in a petty judicial officer's court in Canada. No danger. That isn't what has humiliated the state. If the state had sent a few Warren county lynchers to the penitentiary, it would probably have been under no obligation to send witnesses to Canada in order to secure the extradition of Bullock.

Let us keep this thing straight. Canada may have been a little overzealous, but she had plenty of reason. We have the reputation of being bloodthirsty murderers down here in North Carolina, and it is our industrious lynchers who have secured that reputation for us. We shall never be regarded as a thoroughly civilized people until we stop this lynching business. It's no use talking in grandiloquent, Tom Dixonish terms about what a white man will stand and what a white man won't stand. A white man has got to stand by the law, if he expects to hold up his head among other white men.

All this snorting about the fierce pride of the Anglo-Saxon race is the most disgusting poppycock ever invented. If no negro were ever lynched for anything but rape, it might have some shadow of excuse. But alleged rapists constitute only a small proportion of the victims of mobs in the south these days. Negroes are lynched for all manner of crimes, ranging down to simple misdemeanors. Matthew Bullock's brother wasn't lynched for rape, but for shooting at white men. Furthermore, as every southerner knows, the mobs are not composed of fiercely proud Anglo-Saxons, but usually of the off-scourings of creation—the poorest, morally, of poor white trash, plug-uglies and thugs of every imaginable description, many of them wanted themselves by the police, occasionally under the leadership of some semi-respectable white man of the rattle-headed type. The idea that any thoroughly decent citizen took part in any of the four affairs of the sort that disgraced the state last year is absurd.

This sort of riff-raff has no race pride, nor any other sort of pride. It has merely a congenital tendency toward disorder, easily inflamed into crazy blood-lust.

WHITE WOMEN CONDEMN LYNCHING

4/15/22 Washington Tribune

Committee Organized to Promote Christian Principles in Race Relations

Dallas, Tex., (Special)—Declaring that "lynching is the black spot on America's soul," that "we have no security unless the law protects us," and that "law and order must be maintained at all costs," leading women from all parts of Texas met in Dallas a few days ago and organized for the purpose of seeking a Christian solution of the tangled problem of race relations. Mrs. Jessie Daniel Ames of Georgetown was elected Chairman and Mrs. John S. Turner of Dallas, secretary. The membership of the committee embraces representatives of the principal civic and religious organizations of the State, Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker being a notable figure in the group.

A strong address was drafted and given to the public, recognizing the condition of the Negro in the South as a community problem affecting the welfare of both races and demanding for its solution the application of the principles of humanity and justice. An appeal was made for the rights of every child to a reasonable chance in life and for a single standard of morality that will protect the womanhood of all races.

The women's committee will function as a section of the Texas Committee on Inter-Racial Co-operation, the purpose of which is to organize in every community where race relations constitute a serious problem a group of the best people to study local conditions and needs and deal with them intelligently and in a Christian spirit. Dr. J. C. Hardy is chairman of the State Committee. It was stated that in many communities the plan had averted threatened trouble and displaced acute situations by confidence and good will.

LET'S HOPE NEVER AGAIN.

From Macon (Ga.) Telegraph,

There is an old theory that the Negro will not respond to kindness, but must be cowed and intimidated in order to make him keep his place. The adherents of this theory have ventured the comment that the present grand jury investigations in Bibb and Monroe Counties are liable to give assurance to the lawless class of Negroes and cause them to think they can become offensive and commit crime with impunity, and that if this is true the less said about the recent lynching of the Negro Glover, the better for both the whites and blacks.

There is an entirely different view of the matter, however, expressed by others to the effect that the Negro as a rule is the most docile, kindest creature of the human race, and that as a people they are obliging, well-disposed and can be better handled with kindness and fair treatment than with injustice and inhumanity. Not that this applies to Glover, nor his kind, but to the average run-of-mine Negroes, who constitute the great majority.

There is no question but that this large majority of Negroes want peace and law and order, and to be let alone—to be allowed to make their living under conditions set up and controlled by the white people among whom they move, and the principal concern is safety and immunity from harm when living up to the prescribed standards.

This is in addition to the lawlessness involved in the recent disorder in which numbers of law-abiding, well-behaved, innocent Negroes were made the victims of mob passion and violence. The lawless element among the whites broke out for a frolic, as they thought, and they had a good tim of it, according to their reckoning of a good time— for the moment. There is another chapter to this feature of the affair, however, and the Grand Juries, representing the real majesty of the law, are attending to that with entire satisfaction to the law-abiding citizens of both races. We are not taking into consideration in this particular discussion the outrageous and unnecessary violations of the law of the land, enacted for the protection and benefit of every person, but rather does the discussion turn to the effect upon the better class of Negroes when they see white people run riot.

The Negro who behaves himself and endeavors to make an honest living, and take care of his family, is a good citizen and his rights are not only sacred to him but they should be sacred to every law-abiding and self-respecting white man in the State. We wish all Negroes could and did measure up to this standard, but the way to make more of them measure up to it is to put a premium upon good conduct. Every Negro should be made to feel that he is safe and immune from imposition or attack as long as he is law-abiding, and that he can count on the white people who are all-powerful to see that he is protected. There is no greater fear and distress that can come to the well-behaved Negroes than to think that regardless of what they may do to win the esteem and protection of the white people, that all of this may be forgotten and brushed aside, in a twinkling, on acount of the misdeeds of an irresponsible and reckless member of their race, for whom they as a whole are no more responsible than the entire white people are for some miscreant of the white race. The awfulness of the night of terror to Negroes under the strain of the recent outbreak may readily be imagined. Many of them were taken into the homes or to the premises of white people who knew them and could vouch for them, and who were ready to defend them at any cost.

Such a night should not be possible in Macon, and now that everyone has had time to reflect, the condemnation should be so strong that no lawless element, constituting only a handful of wilfuls, may have the temerity to take matters into their own hands and run riot again. We want law-abiding, well-behaved, polite, good Negroes in this community and State—we need them. Their reward should be immunity from the possibility of harm—that's the way to make the highest possible percentage of them the desirable kind.

Has Mrs. Felton Changed Her Opinion on Lynching Negroes?

New York Age 10/14/22

Woman Appointed to U. S. Senate From Georgia Advised Agricultural Society in 1917 to "Lynch 1,000 Negroes a Week If Necessary"

New York

(By CHARLES E. HALL)

Washington, D. C.—The recent appointment of Mrs. W. H. Felton to the United States Senate by Governor Hardwick of Georgia, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Senator Thomas Watson, is a distinct honor paid to the women of the country, and a royal tribute to a very accomplished member of that sex. It will be recalled that Mrs. Felton is the widow of a former Georgia Congressman, and that back in 1897 she made an address on the subject of lynching before the Agricultural Society at Tybee, Georgia, that received wide publicity throughout the country and riveted the attention of the world upon the barbaric mob rule spirit so freely exercised throughout the United States.

In 1898, in answer to the charge that the address delivered by her had instigated the editorial written by Manly in the Wilmington *Record*, which precipitated the Wilmington outrage that caused the loss of sixteen lives, Mrs. Felton reiterated her decluarations concerning lynchings and said, "If need be, lynch 1,000 Negroes a week if this is necessary to protect the women." She also suggested that Manly should be made to fear a lyncher's rope rather than occupy a place in the New York newspapers in which had appeared articles written by him concerning the riot.

At that time, twenty-five years ago, the work of Judge Lynch had not gripped American conscience; the newspapers did not give tabulated returns, each year, setting forth the records made in each state by the followers of this great American out-door sport, and the lynch-

ing of a Negro for a supposed murder, for suspected burglary, for gambling or on account of debt or political troubles were not infrequently charged to the heinous crime of rape by the lynchers and by the unimformed press of the country, with the result that even the respectable Negro element in certain states lived under a constant strain of fear, and largely because of this fear, *became less productive and more migratory.*

Not unlike many others of that day and generation, Mrs. Felton's regard, or lack of regard for the Negro as a citizne was probably due to the very unreliable news service which depicted every Negro victim of mob violence as a big, burly black rapist, and it was doubtless due to this viewpoint that she declared in her speech, "If it requires lynching to protect women's dearest possession from ravening, drunken human brutes, then I say, lynch a thousand a week if it's necessary."

Since 1897, however, a great change has taken place in the heart of the American public. The devastating work of "Jack Ketch" is the shame of our republic. State governors like Stanly and Hardwick; many statesmen and prominent editors and citizens have placed themselves on record against lynching, a crime that has not left its bloody blot upon the history of any other nation, civilized or savage. It is an American crime that makes the hypocritical cry of our statesmen for a *"World Democracy"* sound to foreign natons like the wail of a highwayman who has been caught with the goods on his person.

In the light of all that has happened; with the awakened conscience of the white citizens; with the splendid progress that has been made by the Negroes during the past twenty-five years, and with a fairer attitude on the part of the press in reporting the *real* causes that lead up to these too frequent happenings we hope, or at least suspect that the views of this Christian lady of national repute and influence are less harsh than they were years ago when she advised the farmers at Tybee, Chatham County, Georgia, to "Lynch a thousand a week."

PROF. KERLIN'S TESTIMONIAL GREAT SUCCESS

Washington Tribune 11-25-22

Washington, D.C.

"Dreamers have been the makers of history," said Col. Robert T. Kerlin in an address on "Dreams and Dreamers" at John Wasley Church, Monday night before a large audience.

After telling of Abraham, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, David and others of Biblical history, he mentioned several men and women of color of outstanding note in the history of this country, among them Phillis Wheatley who was a dreamer; Frederick Douglass who dreamed of freedom for his people before Emancipation; Booker Washington, whose dream of education brought Tuskegee into existence; "and he," said Prof. Kerlin, "was a greater Emancipator than Lincoln."

Paul Lawrence Dunbar, who wrote "Lyrics of Lowly Life," brought about a new era for the Negro race in art and poetry. "His art was outstanding," said Col. Kerlin, "and is an inspiration to both Negro and white peots today." Sojourner Truth was mentioned as a dreamer along with Lucian B. Watkins and Joseph S. Cotter.

Col Kerlin in his address quoted from a number of Negro poets. He demonstrated a keen appreciation for Negro poems and showed a wonderful memory by his varied quotations from them. He stated that numbers of people will tell you of the material gain of the race and its wonderful record for the past sixty years; but that does not make a race or mark the real progress of a race. Art, literature, science, philosophy, poetry and sculpture and such things are the factors in the building of a civilization.

Concerning lynching, Col. Kerlin said. "Could I but raise the mantle that hangs before the Negro woman, it would make the white women of this country rise in twenty-four hours, and put down the hideous thing of lynching. It is a spurious kind of chivalry which recognizes womanhood in one race only."

Regarding the recent election the speaker said; "I never talk politics before a colored audience, but I cannot refrain from expressing my elation for the Negro in expressing his convictions instead of his traditions in the recent election. The politically wise might read a lesson from the results of the election. However I am of the opinion that a new party has been born, and I would characterize the two old parties as a dead line and a dead dog. Both parties are effete and promise nothing. The independence shown by the Negro in the election is commendable and I trust that it will be the means of bringing to them justice and equal participation in the government."

Summing up Col. Kerlin said: "Justice is a name only and a fictitious one at that, if it can be administered at a man's will. Therefore, I hold that the Negro in order to be a full fledged American citizen, is entitled to the right of justice, the right of protection, the right to labor wherever he desires, the right to build a home when and where he pleases and feel a security thereof, the right to a full education, equal opportunity before the law, the right of free travel and equal participation in government."

Col. Kerlin has liberal views as regards the Negro. He was an instructor of English in the Virginia Military Institute, at Lexington, Va. Following the Elaine riots, in Arkansas, Col. Kerlin wrote the Governor of Arkansas a strong appeal in favor of the twelve colored men arrested as instigators of the riot. For this the board of governors of this state institution of learning, requested his resignation. He refused to resign. They dismissed him the first day of January, 1921.

Thru the efforts of Attorney Shelby J. Davidson, secretary of the local branch of the N. A. A. C. P., this meeting was arranged as a testimonial for Col. Kerlin. It is expected that the affair will net about $400, which will be presented to him.

Lynchings — 1922 Negro Press (Georgia) 979
Discussion. (2)

JESUP MINISTER DENOUNCES LYNCHING OF TWO NEGROES

Savannah Tribune

Rev. P. T. Holloway Invites Officers to Hear Him Talk About Case

7-6-22

Jesup, Ga., July 5—With county officers present by special invitation, the Rev. P. T. Holloway, pastor of the local Mehtodist church, preached against the lynching of the two Negroes, Jordan and Harvey, last Friday night between Jesup and Savannah.

He chose for his text: "'Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.'" He called upon the officers to search oue hte lynchers and bring them to trial or retire from office.

Mr. Holloway declared that every crime will sooner or later be found out, that it is also impossible to deceive God. He said the time has come in the life of the state and nation "when we need to get back with the consciousness that 'God seeth me.'"

He said that in this country the laws are based upon God's work, and that individuals are held responsible for all of their acts. He said responsibility cannot be shifted to another's shoulder. Continuing he said:

"I hope that you may get the ground upon which my plea for law enforcement and regards for law is based. That being the case, a government is successful only when every individual citizen of the government realizes the responsibility that is upon him, as a citizen. I cannot, as an American citizen, place the responsibility for citizenship upon some one else. A good citizen must not keep his mouth shut or shun the responsibilities when the crime has been committed. It is the duty of every citizen to cry out against crime and to use every effort to bring the criminal to the bar of justice. 'Whatsoever man soweth, that shall he also reap.'

"This government of ours, especially here in Georgia, has been doing some very wild sowing in recent years, for the last thirty-seven years in the good old state of Georgia, the 'Empire State of the Southland,' a state with her colleges and universities, a state with a broad acreage; her splendid manhood and womanhood; this great state of ours has written a record of bloodshed. Would you like to see the record? Four hundred and forty-five lynchings in the space of thirty-seven years. Who is to blame? Is it the lawless elements? They have their part in it. But listen, the responsibility is on my shoulders and on your shoulders, and the good citizens who boast of their culture and refinement, lets a minority in this state smear the pages of our history. We have been backboneless and spineless, as American citizens. We have said let the other man do it, and we have taken our place in a secluded corner shunning the responsibility, as a man and as a woman. I am taking my part of it, and I am expecting you to carry yours. Georgia boasts of her civilization, her culture and her refinement; she boasts of a broad and spotless history, and publishes to the world her virtues.

'We are providentially blessed or cursed with having two races in our state, and we proudly boast of the Anglo-Saxon blood that flows in our veins! We say that we are the superior race. Are we or are we not? What do you think of a man or a set of men that takes a poor ignorant Negro, regardless of the crime he has committed—that doesn't enter into it—and hang him up and lynch him? Not lynch him, but lynch the law, then call us a superior race. The strong men, the men of intelligence, taking a person unable to resent or resist, and thus butcher him.

"Brethren, where do we get our superiority, and where do we get our boastfulness when we take a poor Negro and bind him, torture him, or hang him, and leave him there to die? Any man or set of men that would under the cover of night, do such, are not fit to boast of their superiority.

"You may try to run me out of town, but I am going to speak the truth as I see it, and let it rest where it will, but I assure you of one thing, that is I do not fear to speak the truth, and those who do not like it may do what they please about it. I do not fear a man of this kind, and I could whip a whole cow pen full of them, mind the gaps and all the cracks.

"Talk about our superiority over the weak race. Brethren, you who boast of your refinement and culture, it is your duty to encourage and educate and to bring them out to see the awfulness of the crimes they have committed against you. I want to show the falsity of some of the arguments justifying lynching. They say that lynching the Negro is the easiest way to dispose of it; that it saves the family from humiliation and trouble of attending court, and keeps the crime from the public. Let me ask you the suestion, to-night, friends, Where is the most publicity, in your court room that is well guarded under the duly constituted officers of law, or when the crime is published in the daily papers from Maine to the Gulf, and from coast to coast, as in the case to-day, the history of this crime is published to the civilized world? Where is the greatest amount of publicity? You can see the falsity of some of their excuses; then they say that it is an act of chivalry. I want to say that the womanhood of Georgia and of the Southland have come together in a body and say that they do not care for chivalry of this sort, and denounce it as an act of chivalry; they have denounced it in their religious and semi-religious clubs. The truth about it is that we have reached that place where we lynch them for anything. History reveals that we lynch them for stealing, we lynch them for even slapping a white man, and seemingly there is an element in our country that only waits for any excuse to lynch them.

"Our government must act in good faith to its constituency in doing its duty and giving protection to every citizen. It is organized into several departments. If a crime is committed you have what is called the commitment trial, if the evidence justifies the same; a warrant is sworn out, the criminal is placed in jail, he is carried into the Superior Court room, there he is placed upon trial, and tried before twelve competent jurors; he is found guilty or not guilty as the case may be; he is represented by able counsel, the criminal is represented by counsel secured by himself or appointed by the state; the state gives to every man the opportunity to clear himself of the guilt; if he is found guilty and condemned to die, his lawyers can appeal for a new trial, if he can get sufficient evidence; if he can not secure such trial, there is a way of getting it before the Supreme Court, if he is denied a new trial, the Supreme Court may pass an order granting a new trial or they may not do so. If the Supreme Court does not, you have in Georgia a prison commission whose dut yit is to consider commuting the sentence to life imprisonment If they have sufficient evidence, or if they think justice has miscarried, they then commute the sentence to life imprisonment; if not, the lower courts are sustained.

"The state grants the prisoner a right of appeal even through the Governor of the state. The Governor can respite the execution or commute the sentence, if he thinks justice has miscarried. The government under which you and I live today grants every privilege to save life and property; every iota of reasonable doubt must and ought to be removed from the minds of all these officials. Every lawyer should use every crook and turn of the law to save the life of his client. A lawyer who would not use every technicality of the law to save the life of his client is not fit to practice law, is not worthy the confidence of our country, and is not worthy to practice law at the bar o fjustice.

"After all that has been said and done for the protection of your liberty and mine, there are people in this town who will lynch the law, and undertake to execute the law themselves. The victim perhaps ought to die, but when you lynch the victim you have committed a greater crime, you have lynched the law. We claim protection under the law and unless the manhood of Georgia asserts itself it will be unsafe to walk the streets of our country. May God help us to see. Our government provides officers of the law to search out the criminal and bring him to prosecution. It is their duty and their sworn duty to protect every citizen—whether it be a white man or a Negro—to give them every right and every protection in their power. I am going to ask you tonight to face some facts with me relative to the lynching that took place Friday night near old Midway Church, the burying place of heroes who gave their lives for the laws of our land.

"I have heard the remark made since the lynching, that you could not trust the court or the law to execute these Negroes, if the records in the case are the truth they will stand an investigation. If not the truth and there is a flaw in the record those Negroes had a right to demand that the records be investigated; our Governor had a perfect right to respite the sentence of execution of these Negroes. My beloved, in every murder trial, or at leasts a majority of them, the sentence is commuted two or three times.

"The Governor had a perfect right to set this execution for a later date. I do not know the ground upon which the execution was stayed, but it certainly would not have hurt to have waited thirty days.

"The morning after the unlawful execution, I was in our town, walking the streets and conversed with a good number of citizens; I did not see a half dozen strange people in this town. I heard two men only talking about a lynching, and one of them was an officer who took charge of the victims purposely of taking them to Savannah.

"The general public wants to know why they should have been taken away from Jesup, and especially why they should have been taken away in a Ford car, when there were fast passenger trains going gstraight through to Savannah making no stops. The general public wants to know why it was necessary for the sheriff of this county and his deputies to take these two Negroes and carry them out of this town, when they, under the law, had a right to deputize the citizens of this town to help in the protection of these Negroes. They demand to know how a mob of men seventy miles away could find out when these prisoners were taken from the county jail and where they got their information that they were traveling the road they did.

"The general public would like to know why the officers who had these prisoners in charge stopped at Lane's bridge thirty minutes, and told the guard that if anybody came along to tell them they were going to Savannah, and would probably have car trouble. The public wants to know why two men whose names I could call, went to a citizen's house on Thursday and said: "Let's get these two Negroes and lynch them, the sheriff said it would be all right, that he would offer no resistance.

"I have nothing against those two persons, but my sense of justice and righteousness is outraged. I am not saying that they ought not to have been hanged, if the facts warranted it, but you have lynched the law. I want to say to you, beloved, tonight, that it is a disgrace to the citizens of this land and country, and what is to be done? There is one thing to be done and that is for these officers of the law to do everything in their power to bring every man in that mob to justice, and to clear themselves of the stigma upon them; public sentiment demands it, public sentiment demands that they be brought to justice and that they stand by the courts of this land and country and every law of this country; if they can not do this, then get down and get out and get men who have manhood and backbone enough to protect prisoners who are placed in their care. It is the duty of every man every citizen of this tounty and state to stand flat-footed and carry out the law. "Be noe deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap.' Brethren, we have got to come back to that sense of responsibility, and that the all-seeing eye of God is upon us. God save us from the future. I see nothing but anarchy, I see nothing but outrage upon every decent home in all this land, for, brethren, we have got to reap what we sow. Twenty-three or twenty four years ago I was an apprentice in the locomotive works; one of my boyhood friends said to me one day: "I hear there is going to be a lynchin

downtown ,and I want to see it.' Of course, I being a young fellow, I went down with him to see the lynching. They were trying two Negroes for this crime of rape, and the judge was holding court in a cotton warehouse, and a deputy sheriff made a motion in the court, a kind of signal, and it seemed to me that everybody got up and moved toward those Negroes. They took the Negroes out and lynched them on Broad street. A fellow from Harris county, then living in Columbus, tied the knots and the deputy sheriff crawled up into the tree and tied the knots around the tree. They did not wait until he got down before the Negroes were shot to pieces. There were ten men who took part in the lynching, and I have watched the careers of those men. This deputy sheriff afterwards moved to Harris county, some fifteen miles from there, and one of the men in the mob visited his home, and he killed this visitor for the same crime for which they lynched those Negroes. The man killed had reaped what he had sown.

"In the mean time the deputy sheriff was put in jail, and after serving his sentence came back, and a few years ago, having been chief of police in a small town in another state, he was found out, brought back to Harris county, sentenced to the state farm for life. While there two of his daughters who had grown into young women had this crime committed against them, but by white men; one of these men moved to a little Western town and was lynched for the same crime that he lynched those two Negroes for, and every man of the ten members of that mob reaped what they sowed.

"I am not justifying the man who would not protect his home, but when the law places its hand upon the criminal, we should respect the law, or we are sowing anarchy and communism. We are going to reap what we sowed. May God help us to be true citizens of this country, May God help us."

POLITICS AT HOME.

Atlanta Constitution 11-6-22

The Color Line in Politics.

There is talk in Florida of reorganizing the republican party of the state on a basis exclusively white. The colored voter, or rather the colored man entitled under the federal constitution to a vote, is to be excluded.

An experiment of this kind was tried in Virginia last year. The republicans of the Old Dominion made an appeal for support for a state ticket which had been nominated by a convention composed of only white men.

The experiment failed completely. The colored contingent of the party resented the movement by putting a state ticket of its own in the field, while those democrats for whom the white contingent was angling failed or refused to bite. The democratic ticket was elected by the largest majority ever recorded in a state contest.

The experiment in Florida will fail, and deserves to fail. The colored man was enfranchised by the republican party, and, wherever permitted to vote, has ever since supported republican candidates, state and national. In some states he has been, and still is a material factor in republican calculations. He responds to party appeals, and votes straight.

That he is excluded from all political activity in other states is no fault of his. He is the victim of circumstances and prejudices over which he has no control.

Juggling in this fashion with the suffrage will yield nothing to the republicans who attempt it. If the southern states are to be converted to republicanism it must be through appeals based upon principles and policies, and not upon appeals recognizing prejudices which the democrats have established and fostered and from which derived a long list of local benefits. The constitution forbids the drawing of the color line at the polls, and provides a penalty where the line is drawn.

The above except is clipped from the Washington Star, the leading newspaper published at the capital, and it speaks a truth that is incontrovertible when it says that the attempt to reorganize the republican party in the south or elsewhere, exclusively of white people and to the exclusion of colored people, is all wrong and folly—that no party can succeed who bases its foundation and growth upon the violation of the federal constitution, or which undertakes to deny any class of citizens, because of their color, their constitutional rights.

Our contemporary further submits that "Juggling in this fashion with the suffrage will yield nothing to the republicans who attempt it. If the southern states are to be converted to republicanism it must be through appeals based upon principles and policies, and not upon appeals recognizing prejudices which the democrats have established and fostered and from which derived a long list of local benefits. The constitution forbids the drawing of the color line at the polls, and provides a penalty where the line is drawn."

If the republican administration at Washington could bring itself around to subscribe to the fundamental doctrine herein enunciated by the Washington Star, its hold on the government at Washington would be long lived and the country would grow into prosperity as do the crops when rain falls in season. But, if the Harding policy of discrimination against citizens because of their color prevails, the life of the republican administration at Washington will be short lived, and will soon die of its own weakness.

The Star aptly illustrates the folly of such a policy by the republican experience in Virginia, where, under the leadership of Bascom Slemp, Will Hays, Weeks and Harding, a white republican party was organized and from which all Negroes were excluded upon the grounds that they were Negroes. The lilywhite organization went so far as to say it did not want the support of the black people, and the result was, as put by our contemporary, "The democrats carried the state by the largest majority in the history of its organization."

Down in Georgia where the administration dispatched special carpetbaggers to set up a white man's party to the exclusion of Negroes, and in which the President's representative said, "That the President believed in white leadership—that he does not believe that the party will ever be active and function as a factor in the politics of the state so long as Negroes dominate."

And in accordance with these views, a white organization was established, the regular organization set aside and outlawed. And, what has been the result? The head of the lilywhite organization is held under a $25,000 bond for defrauding the government; the federal grand jury in the Northern District of Georgia has been investigating graft and intimidation on the part of the management of the lilywhite organization in the state. The lilywhite organization has gone to pieces of its own weakness in not having had a meeting since its organization, nor attempted to do anything but sell offices and intimidate federal officers into giving up their salaries for protection to a so-called republican educational society. There has been no attempt to disseminate the principles and policies of the party—no meeting, no candidates put out, simply doing business as office brokers. Verily our contemporary is right.

U. S. JUDGE ASSAILS MOB LAWLESSNESS

Organized Bodies Encouraging Law Violations Hit by Judge Barrett in District Court.

Atlanta Constitution 11-8-22

Macon, Ga., October 2.—(Special.) Organizations that encourage violations of the laws of the government and the state were assailed by Judge W. H. Barrett today, when he convened the western division of the southern district of United States court for the first time since being appointed to succeed the late Judge Beverly D. Evans.

"Law, however well written and proclaimed, becomes a hollow mockery," said Judge Barrett, "unless fairly and courageously enforced. Better no law on any particular subject than one that is permanently and continuously violated, condemned and spurned."

"Any organization," he continued, "however numerous its membership and however worthy and admirable may be its other tenets, which authorizes, countenances or encourages trials violative of these principles, is an attack upon our government, subversive of our liberties and a menace to the law.

"How elementarily wrong it is, you may realize by asking yourself this simple question: 'Would I, a law-abiding and virtuous citizen, be accorded justice if I were charged with an offense of which I had not been informed, sustained by witnesses whom I never saw, before a tribunal that met in secret without me present?'

"What can result from this but anarchy and horror? Can you trust in the virtue of men who have not the courage to act in the open? You surely are not willing to be a culprit in such a travesty on justice. If you are a Christian, are you willing to be one of the judges? What will you do about it—remain quiet, or proclaim your convictions?"

Less Lynching Is Being Done, Council Is Told

Atlanta Constitution 11-18-22

Georgia Grand Juries Making New Records in Probing Mob Outrages.

Lynchings have decreased in Georgia, according to a report made by Dr. C. B. Wilmer at the meeting of the Christian council held at the First Christian church Friday night.

"For 37 years preecding 1922," he stated, "there were over 430 lynchings in Georgia. During the four years from 1917 to 1920 there were 57. In these cases no record of any indictments could be found. In 1922 there were eight lynchings and indictments have been secured in three cases. In addition an indictment was secured on one case that occurred in 1921."

Dr. Wilmer said the report he quoted was compiled by the secretary of the Georgia committee on race relations.

Dr. L. O. Bricker, chairman of the prison welfare committee of the council, told of the work being done at the federal prison in Atlanta. He told how the committee divided into three groups miinstered to the federal prisoners, giving religious, legal and educational aid.

Dr. Bricker stated that since the activities of the council committee within prison walls suicides among prison inmates have been virtually eliminated.

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A COUNTY OFFICER UNDER SERIOUS CHARGES.

Atlanta Independent

In another column of this page will be found a special from Moultrie, Georgia, of an officer who has been charged with aiding and abetting a mob in lynching a colored citizen of Colquitt county. He is also charged with another serious crime.

To think that a sworn officer would aid and abet a mob in lynching a citizen whom he is sworn to protect, is unthinkable, and all law abiding citizens are shocked with horror. If we cannot depend upon the officers of the law, whom can we trust? There can be no more grave offense than that officers, the constituted authority, should become particeps criminis with law breakers.

If an officer of the law joins in with the law-breakers, then governments must perish from the face of the earth; for it is upon them that society must depend, and when they fail, all is gone.

The Independent has always contended that the reason why there are mobs and lynchers, is because the officers connive and consent, and make it easy for the lynchers.

That is why we are in favor of the Anti-Lynching Bill, which provides that this class of criminals shall be taken over by the federal government to be tried in the federal courts; for the counties and states have utterly failed to protect the citizens from this class of murderers; and if the government fails to interfere and protect its citizens, then the citizens have no protection—they are left to the tender mercies of blood thirsty mobs, who thirst for human blood.

It is the duty of all law-abiding citizens, whether democratic or republican—to support the Anti-Lynching Bill which is now pending in Congress; and the congressman or senator who protests against this fair and just measure, is either derelict in duty or has a very little regard for human life. He puts his district in a bad light, and if carried to its ultimate consequences, will lead this great government into anarchy.

HOW LYNCHINGS CAN AND WILL BE STOPPED

Atlanta Georgian 5/18/22

SLOWLY perhaps, but surely without doubt, the straight-thinking, high-minded, courageous citizenship of Georgia—which this paper holds and ever has held to be in the great majority—is awakening to the fact that the horrible and wholly unworthy crime of lynching CAN be stopped; that it can be stopped by an aroused and militant public spirit, not afraid to deal with a lyncher as he deserves to be dealt with. There is, of course, much ground yet to be covered in this regard; but undoubtedly we ARE making progress.

Not long ago, a barbarous and frightful lynching took place in Schley County, which was duly and properly chronicled in the newspapers. In due course, the grand jury of that county had the courage—and we use the word advisedly—to indict eight men for participation in that crime. three of them were brought to trial, five of them fled the county and are now at large. A few days ago, the three indicted were convicted—convicted weakly enough, we must admit, of "shooting at another" (rather than of murder or being accessory to murder) and recommended to the mercy of the court, which recommendation, if accepted by the court, would have reduced the charge to a misdemeanor involving a fine only of one to thousand dollars or twelve months' imprisonment in the chain gang (or both), as the court might decide.

That was not a great deal, to be sure; but, at least, it was finding the men GUILTY, which gave Judge Z. A. Littlejohn an opportunity to demonstrate HIS high sense of duty in the circumstances. The judge—who, by the way, is admittedly one of the ablest Superior Court judges in the State, having served with great distinction for more than a quarter of century—very promptly DECLINED to accept the jury's recommendation as to the punishment, but accepted without hesitation the jury's verdict of guilty. He sentenced the defendants to a term of four years in the penitentiary—as for a felony, which was the degree of charge set forth in the indictment.

In commenting most temperately and intelligently upon this matter, the Americus Times-Recorder, a daily newspaper in the vicinity of the crime, in respect of the matter said editorially this:

"Judge Z. A. Littlejohn is due the highest respect and honor from the public for his courageous conduct in passing upon the Schley County lynching case as he did when it reached him in the form of a jury verdict Wednesday night. By his fearless handling of a situation that might have been embarrassing to others he has focused public attention upon Schley County and the eyes of the outside world upon Georgia in a most favorable light, we believe. . . . We are not sure that it was the first conviction of white men for participation in an attack upon a negro for a trivial offense—if, indeed, there was any offense at all—but if not it was one of the very few examples of such a result. . . .

"The real weak spot in the verdict, as it appears from this short distance, is that the jury saw fit to recommend a misdemeanor punishment after declaring the men guilty. Certainly if they were guilty they deserved stern punishment, and if not guilty they deserved none at all. For they were charged with an offense of gravity; they should pay a penalty in proportion to their offense, or pay nothing if not guilty. That must have been the conclusion of Judge Littlejohn, on the bench, when the verdict came to him. For he accepted the conclusions of the twelve men that the defendants were guilty, then disregarded entirely the recommendation of the jury as to lightening the punishment.

"Of course, the verdict was a compromise. There were some of the twelve who wished to free the defendants, but the fact that they voted for conviction on the less serious charge rather than hold out for a mistrial demonstrated the true opinion in the heart of every juror and the fact that no doubt existed in the mind of any as to the guilt or innocence of the defendants.

"Schley County has been unfortunate in being the seat of this unpleasant affair of lawlessness. But her best citizens, by their courage, have removed the stain from her name, and law and order again stand vindicated within her borders. We believe the conviction of these three men, with indictments still hanging over five others who have not yet made up their minds to come out from hiding, will prove a wonderful deterrent in the future to any who might have the impulse to take the law into their own hands on slight provocation."

Citizens of Schley County do not relish the stain put upon their county by lynching any more than the vast majority of the people of the other counties in this State relish it. But, in too many counties, lawless minorities HAVE for many years been permitted to ride at times rough-shod over the respectable majority. And apparently the day is at hand in Georgia when that sort of thing is going to end.

All that is needed is for grand juries to arise—as did the Schley County grand jury—to the duty of INDICTING lynchers; for the juries to arise to the duty of CONVICTING them and for the judge to arise to the duty of SENTENCING them.

ONCE THE FEAR OF THE LAW IS PUT SURELY INTO THE HEART OF A COWARDLY LYNCHER, HE SLINKS AWAY AND DISAPPEARS FOREVER—SLINKS AWAY AS COWARDLY BEASTS OF THE NIGHT SLINK AWAY BEFORE THE RISING OF THE MORNING SUN.

THE TEXAS LYNCHING.

Atlanta Journal 5/19/22

The lynching of three Negroes by a mob of 800 men at Kirvin leaves Texas no defense. It was not only a deliberate crime, it was plain barbarism. There will be, of course, the usual efforts to excuse the people of Kirvin for burning the Negroes at the stake by pleading that in the circumstances they were excusable. Mob murder cannot be justified.

But in the end, what will the community of Kirvin do for the vindication of the law? Will it shield the leaders in the perpetration of this horror and save them from punishment? It must know that tolerance of lynching breeds lawlessness, and that by it Texas stands disgraced in the eyes of the world.—New York World.

SAYS CITIZENS MUST CURB LYNCH SPIRIT

Savannah Tribune 5/25/22

Believes Anti-Mob Organization Would Be Effective.

Expressing the belief that an anti mob organization of citizens in every community, ready to assemble quickly, could "prevent hot-headed action and give sober second thought a chance to prevail," Col G. Arthur Gordon in a timely communication addressed to the Morning News discusses the growing menace of the mob spirt and offers some original suggestions for the suppression of the evil which is bringing disgrace to the state.

His views are given as follows:

Newspaper readers have been shocked and horrified by the distardly murder near Davisboro, and the lynching which followed. The sympathy of the entire state goes out to the husband and family of the splendid young woman so brutally assassinated while in the discharge of her public duties.

Every thoughtful citizen deplores such crimes, and their consequences. Unquestionably, they are on the increase and I, in common with all who feel any sense of responsibility for the future, have been thinking very soberly about conditions in this state, and about the best means of improving them.

Frequently, during the past five years, I have heard men, whose opinion I respected, exclaim, with bitterness:

"I am a Georgian, but I am ashamed of my state."

In the light of the many recent unhappy occurrences, I, too, desire to go on record as follows:

"I am a Georgian, and I am ashamed not of my state, but of myself."

And the reason will become apparent to anyone who has the patience to read this communication to its conclusion.

Why is it that these ignorant, half-crazed brutes, with men's bodies and minds of children, commit these terrible crimes? Exactly the same race lived amongst us before and during and immediately after the Civil War. When the white men were away in the Confederate army, and the women were left alone, surrounded by the Negroes, not one instance af assault

murder was recorded. It was not due to the cowed timidity of slaves, for they often showed courage in opposing bushwackers and bummers who wished to molest the white families.

May it not be that the difference in the behavior of the Negro is the result of the difference in the attitude adopted toward him by the white man?

Why is it that groups of men and boys, reported to be cold sober, solemnly believe that they are dealing out justice, protecting their women, and striking terror into the hearts of other would-be criminals, when they kill the perpetrators of these foul crimes? The savage is close under the skin of all of us, and if anyone doubts that we white citizens are going backward in the scale of civilization, let it be remembered that formerly lynchers killed by hanging, usually shooting simultaneously; the next step was burning at the stake; now, torture precedes the burning. Is the public exhibition of this torture, and the gloating over the agony of the dying elevating the Christian character of the lynchers and spectators? Is it likely that we, who think ourselves so safe, are going to escape the consequences of this spirit? Is it possible that we, who imagine ourselves so superior, fail to realize that we are responsible for the existence of conditions which make possible both the crime and the lynching?

This country is governed by public opinion. Public opinion is created by leadership. If those who believe in character and self-control and patience and responsibility and the age-long foundations of progress and civilization, abdicate leadership, keep silence, and fold their hands, then let no one wonder to see leaders rise who appeal to prejudice, passion, ignorance and license.

And that is why I am ashamed of, not others, or my state, but myself. Believing as I do, and keeping silent, I am just as responsible for the atmosphere of lawlessness as the criminal I abhor, and the lyncher I disapprove of.

There is no "happy thought" remedy for the present state of affairs. Outside interference and "holier than thou" criticism get us nowhere. I have no faith in state constabulary or federal lynch laws. Punishment of lynchers will no more stop lynching than lynching will stop the unspeakable crime.

But I have an abiding faith in response of both white man and the Negro of this state to a public opinion which stands for fairness, justice, decency and self-control.

As to the Negro, he is the most amiable peasant on the face of the earth. He is the white man's responsibility. He is easily managed by those who understand him. He is still an irresponsible child. It is not fair or safe to leave him to his own devices and uncertain conditions, and then expect from him reasoned, sober conduct. Injustice or oppression will breed resentment, bitterness and crime. It is getting to be a question not of what the white man will do to the Negro, but of the effect of the Negro's presence is having on the white man.

The time has come for the Southern white man, on the farm and in the city, to re-establish the relation of responsibility for the Negro's training which formerly existed to guide and help him in his struggle, and above all to have the courage to speak out and fight against every instance of injustice, or cruelty, or opression of the weak by the strong.

As to the mob spirit, that must be curbed. The provocation at Davisboro will seem to many to justify mob rule, but the trouble is that every yielding to this spirit carries us a step further. Public vengeance will be followed by private vengeance; race hatred by religious hatred and then class hatred until the best haters will rule, and we will have another Russia with ignorant tyranny at the top and a nation starving to death. In every community there are men who oppose mob rule. They know its dangers and consequences. They are usually influential men. A few of these, formed into an anti-mob organization, ready to assemble quickly, could prevent hot-headed action and give sober second thought a chance to prevail. Even one successful mob dispension would change public spirit. The very members of the mob would be relieved to find that they had no human life, no matter how vile, on their consciences.

The newspapers can do an enormous service in improving public opinion. They mould it, and give it expression. But individuals, too, share this responsibility, and it is with the hope of arousing them to action, and stimulating discussion which may lead to practical results, that this letter is written.

MACON'S ORGY.

Atlanta Constitution

The death of Walter Byrd, a deputy sheriff of Bibb County, on Saturday night last, caused by the revolver shots of a drunken or disorderly Negro whom he was trying to arrest, in order to protect the Negroes in the place of business infested by the bad character is one of Macon's most pathetic tragedies in many years. It is pathetic by reason of Walter Byrd's popularity as an officer, and his reputation for fearlessness and devotion to his duty. But more than this, is the pathetic side of the tragedy on account of the bereft family left by Byrd. It was all so unnecessary. 8-3-22

Piled on top of these sufficiently sad features is the mortal wounding of two innocent Negroes by promiscuous shooting done during the excitement, the identity of the shooters of the Negroes being unknown. One of these Negroes tells the story that he was quietly eating a plate of ice cream when a white man in black clothes rushed up and fired a pistol ball into him, without provocation or explanation. And the fact that the innocent Negroes who were shot perhaps have families that are now without breadwinners adds still another phase to the unhappy situation.

Then, as though the summary did not contain enough misery, a crowd of white people gathered as usual about the scene of the shooting and for several hours made the streets unsafe for any Negro who happened in that vicinity. It was sufficient at all times to have any person approach or pass wearing a black skin, and like the wolf pack that follows the cry of its leader, the gang was off to do any devilment that opportunity might permit. Several Negroes were pounced upon, beaten, shot at, chased, and the cry of "Kill him, kill him," was the password and identification of the bloodthirsty and unreasoning irresponsibles.

The Telegraph has strenuously argued against the passage of the anti-lynching bill proposed in Congress, upon the ground that Georgia could be relied upon to look after her own affairs, and that this was an unpardonable invasion of state's rights. But there are far too many instances of flagrant flaunting of the law in this state to make it possible for us to defend the practice and permit the criminals to go unpunished. There was no earthly excuse for the gang of white men to chase or beat up or shoot at Negroes who were going about their affairs and who had nothing to do with the shooting of Walter Byrd.

It happens in almost every instance that when a Negro commits a crime against society, with a white man as the particular object of attack, the irresponsible element seizes upon the situation as an excuse for sundry crimes against the Negro race in general. It is construed as license to run riot. Negroes were attacked on Saturday night who did not even know that Walter Byrd had been shot. Among them were some well-known Negroes, who are law-abiding, peaceable and inoffensive. Yet the gang treated them just as though they had committed the murder.

And respectable white people had to stand by and see these things go on. For carrying pistols and shooting in the city there is not one man in jail nor in the barracks, nor is it probable that there will be. So why shouldn't the Federal Government take hold of the situation? If we in Georgia are spineless and permit taxpayers and innocent people who are entitled to the protection of the laws, stand aside and see those laws disregarded, what defense have we against the plan to have the National Government take charge of our home affairs?

What was ever done about the white men who broke open the jail at Irwinton and took a prisoner therefrom, under sentence of death hauled him around the country for several hours, and finally permitted him to escape, before they got to a suitable place to lynch him? These men were described by the victim who, it must be admitted, was a first-rate witness, he having given the names of several of them.—Macon Daily Telegraph.

MUCH UNREST IN MACON

I have been watching the after effect of lynching for a number of years but I have never seen one that stirred the people as the lynching of Glover of this city. Savannah

The conservative ones of us have tried to quietly tell the people that things will soon come around aright but it seems to have no bearing whatever. Tribune 7-21-22 The people claim that their only defense is to get away.

For a number of years our people have been going north but they were composed of the common wage earners. But today we notice that the business and professional men of the race have become upset and are looking for better places where thy can live out of a daily fear of having to pay the death penalty for some law breaker of the race.

We regret very much to give up our own Dr. Moore who left a few days ago to take up residence in Detroit, Michigan.

All of uswhohave decided to struggle through in Macon are grieved to give up our life long friends. But no persuasion appeals to them. My God, how long will it be before justice and righteousness will take hold of our fair city and the South in general with her many ministers, churches and teachers and then our people and be driven from the South, the for which we are best fitted

The Negro loves the Southland and has aright to love it because he gave it his sweat and life to help make it what it is today.

None of our people wanted to leave and would not leave if they could be made to feel that their life is safe and were given a man's chance in the affairs of his city and state.

The next thing that is painful to the Negro is that the best law abiding citizen so often have to suffer the consequence of the most degraded and criminal of our race.

None of us know what to do for the best, but it is alarming to hear the ministers and leaders stand and plead with the people, telling them to wait until the storm is over. There have been so many storms and tornadoes until it has almost uprooted everything in the Negro that gives him hope for a better day in the South for his children. My experience has taught me that in everything there is a reaction. Mob violence, lynching and burning, will cease some day, though it be ere long.

God is not dead and the big-hearted white man that has respect for the word of God and pleads justice to all mankind will some day speak out and take a stand right here in the South.

It must be understood that in a great measure, we ourselves will have to change conditions by developing man and woman hood. Have hope in ourselves, build up our own enterprises, put down those who are traitors among us and seek to destroy our fair sex.

It is to be regretted that we have so much of this stuff among us. If the truth were made known some of these men are our best dressed men of the race and stand high in society. May God speed the time when we will have the manly courage, man and womanhood to udvertise and ostracise this class of men and help by our own effort to change conditions.

A great number of our people are dissatisfied over the educational conditions. This condition can and will be improved if we will do our duty by opening our mouths and let the board of education know that we want better school plants and better educational facilities in general. Have them know that we want a real high school where our children can be prepared for college as those they have for themselves. Let them know that we want better county school houses

that will satisfy his troubled breast—
Georgia Baptist.

But if the Negro is not given these things, with the assurance of the protection of life there is no persuasion

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions

Negro Press (Illinois)

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N. CAROLINA FACES FIRE ONCE MORE

Chicago Defender 3/18/22

Citizens Become Ashamed of State; Ask Governor to Save "Poor Old Man"

By a Staff Correspondent

Raleigh, N. C., March 17.—From Matthew Bullock to Wright Rouse is only a slight change of sentiment in North Carolina's leading citizens—something like graduating from humor to pathos.

Two weeks ago the civic leaders in the entire state seemed to rise as one and demand that the refugee in Canada be brought here, where, in all probability, he would have been lynched.

Today these same leaders have poured an avalanche of letters in upon Governor Morrison, pleading that he use his executive privilege and save from the electric chair old, decrepit Wright Rouse, convicted of the murder of Will Whitley and sentenced to die by electrocution March 26.

Bickett's Friends

These white people are said to be pleading with Morrison to save what little self-respect the tottering commonwealth of North Carolina has left. Some of them are friends of the late ex-Governor Bickett, one of the squarest the state ever had. Others are of a class who detest Bullock, and have no love for Rouse, but, as they say, just hate to see "the old nigger" killed. On several occasions Governor Morrison has refused to listen to petitions in behalf of the man, claiming that these efforts were all seeking equality of injustice, rather than quality of justice.

This [illegible] was born of the fact that [illegible] instigators of the crime [illegible] Rouse was convicted [illegible] light punishments. [illegible] to be a sort of "con-[illegible] a "yarb" man, and, un-[illegible] of the crime, was regard-[illegible] feeble-minded. Sarah Whitley, [illegible] of the murdered man, and Tom [illegible]ays, her sweetheart, contrived to have old Whitley murdered. They are the ones who made use of the old "conjure" doctor. At the trial in Snowhill, Green county, 12 white jurors found Rouse guilty enough to go to the electric chair and gave the white man and woman a second-degree verdict.

Morrison believes that all three should have been sent to the chair—that it was unjust to let any of them off, and that if commutation of sentence were granted to Rouse it would only be equalizing what he believes to have been an original miscarriage of the law.

The most powerful appeal in behalf of the condemned man has come from the commonwealth's attorney who prosecuted the three defendants. He admitted the probable miscarriage of justice in the jury's verdict against the woman and her sweetheart, but he could not and cannot endure the idea of seeing the mentally deficient man suffer more than his white associates.

Say He Isn't Guilty

It is even contended in some quarters that Rouse did not commit the crime. Evidence has been adduced to show that Mrs. Whitley and Hays only used Rouse as a foil, killing the husband themselves and conspiring to have Rouse around. Rouse declares that the man was dead when he came up.

North Carolina has a splendid chance to vindicate herself with mercy shown to this old man. Members of both races say so. During the last few years since the tenure of office of Bickett, matters have continually grown worse in the matter of race relations. The spotlight was thrown on the state in the instance of the Bullock case, at which time the commonwealth played a most ignoble part. There was a time when North Carolina could boast of being reasonably free from lynching. That time has passed. A new order of Race persecution and injustice has made itself felt, and, in the case of Rouse, has seemed to obtain official sanction. Citizens who are even boasting of "white supremacy" want the governor to do something "to save the little self-respect of the white people of the commonwealth."

Truth Stranger Than Fiction; So Is Tennessee

Chicago Defender 3/18/22

Dyersburg, Tenn., March 17.—Strange things continue to happen. Truly this is a strange day. A white jury brought in a verdict of not guilty in the trial of Ed and Ernest Scott, Will Wiggins and Buck McCutcheon, who were arrested last December in connection with the killing of Robert Burkett, a white farmer. The four men were immediately released. The trial had lasted eight days.

The killing of Burkett was followed by a demonstration before the county jail here, and the governor was compelled to send state troops here as a precautionary measure. It was said that two of the accused men made statements at the time of their arrest implicating the other two, but on the witness stand the men denied the statements, saying that they had been obtained under threats.

The men conclusively proved their innocence of the charge against against them, but the real slayer has not yet been brought to light. It is said that the men upon being released stated their determination to leave Dyersburg for fear of mob violence. But it is thought in these parts that the verdict of the jury expresses the general sentiment.

FARMERS HASTEN FROM SOUTH TO ESCAPE MURDERS

Lynchings Spread Terror on Plantations; Workers Start New Exodus

Chicago Defender 3/18/22

By John Jones

Conroe, Tex., June 2.—Eight men burned to death or hanged without trial is the record in Texas and Arkansas during the last two weeks. Most of the murders were committed in this state.

The very frequency of the barbarous outbursts has put the entire populace on edge, some wondering whether these latest crimes are the flowering of Ku Klux Klan activity that has been allowed to grow undisturbed in this state, or the result of the surrender of the law to the demand of the outlaw. In most of the cases of men slain, the victims have been taken out of the hands of police officers. Joe Winters was burned at the stake here in the court house square. The ease with which innocent captives and suspects have been forced from sheriffs and other law officers has given rise to the charge that the law has not only given up, but that it is covertly aiding the lawbreakers in these cases.

Workers Flee

This wholesale murder has spread fear among the workers on the plantations and the beginning of a huge exodus is seen. Already hundreds have left the farms and are on their way to other states, most of them going to the North. Only the men with property and families are slow to speak of leaving this region. The farm hands, single fellows who have heard of better chances in other parts of the country, are fleeing as best they can. One train arriving in St. Louis while I was on my way here brought thirty fugitives from Texas mob law.

John Turner was a member of this group. He had come from Corsicana, Tex., near where three men were burned at the stake. He declared that he could stand it no longer. His wife and two children were with him. The best arrangements possible to dispose of what property they had, had been made and he was on his way to St. Paul, Minn., where he has a cousin with whom he hopes to find refuge. He said he had been forced to employ a ruse to get away, borrowing a wagon from a friend and driving to another town before letting it be known that he was leaving the state. He could not tell how many were leaving because most of those who had their plans kept them to themselves for fear the whites would learn of them and renew persecution.

Protest Innocence.

All of the men and boys burned and hung within the last two weeks have protested their innocence with the exception of one. He was Harry Owen, burned in Texarkana, Ark., for the alleged shooting of R. C. Choate, police officer. The evidence seems to be straight on him.

Besides the four men murdered at Kirvin, Tex., the others are.

Joe Winters, 16, burned at the stake. Number in mob, 500.

Moses Bosier, 60, taken from county authorities at Alloton, Colorado county, and hanged. Mob, 300.

Harry Owen, burned to death in Texarkana. Mob, 4,000.

Jim Early, hanged at Plantersville. Mob, 700.

Other Papers Say

Chicago Defender 3/25/22

NOT A GOOD REPUTATION

[From Savannah Morning News.]

For a Negro to commit a crime in Georgia and get to safety it is only necessary for him to reach Canada or Ohio. The extradition of a Negro wanted in North Carolina was recently denied by Canadian authorities and the governor of Ohio has refused to surrender to Georgia law a Negro wanted in Floyd county for murder. Two things may be said about this. One is that Georgia's reputation for lynching is the one excuse given for refusing to honor her requests for extradition. The other is that it does no good for other states or foreign governments to decline extradition on that ground. It creates no good feeling in Georgia and it encourages criminals to commit crimes when they have a chance to get out of Georgia before being caught. It would be good indeed if the two things, the state's reputation for lynching and the refusal to grant extradition, could be considered separately; both are cause for regret; both are wrong. But it is a cause of chagrin that any state fears to permit a man to return to Georgia where he would face a charge of murder. Canada and Ohio have expressed official disrespect for Georgia; they have said in effect that the civil power in Georgia either will not or cannot protect its prisoners—and therefore if a Georgia criminal escapes to either of these places he can stay there, regardless of the nature of his crime. There appears to be but one thing that Georgia can do about it all; and that is to get a better reputation as to lynchings. And the way to get that reputation is to quit lynching.

INTERFERENCE WITH MAILS

[From Macon, Ga., Telegraph.]

The Telegraph discussed at some length yesterday the pathetic spectacle of the law made impotent in the face of a few rowdies who were bent on doing mischief and visiting unwarranted and wholly unnecessary punishment on a few innocent Negroes Saturday night, after the regrettable killing of Walter Byrd and the shooting of two Negroes who happened to be in the vicinity of the trouble. These irresponsibles were led by a blatant-talking individual, who was loud in his declarations as to what "we" would do. If he had been locked up promptly and the others of the crowd, with their flourishing and firing pistols, told to get off the streets, the name of Macon for law and order and decency might have been maintained.

The same news story carried the narrative of how a postman, in the discharge of his duties as collector of mails from the mail boxes of the city, where business men and others had deposited their letters, and where the mighty forces of the United States government were supposed to have spread their protecting wings—this man, because he was a Negro, peaceable and orderly, was told by the hoodlums to "get for home," and was literally forced to lay down his mail bag and abandon his work.

Postmaster Rudisill was justly indignant by reason of his inability to secure the services of one officer to escort this postman and see that he was allowed to do his work. And that great crime that we have seen so many men prosecuted for and sent to the penitentiary—that crime that has caused the United States forces to assemble and straighten out affairs—that of interrupting or interfering with the mails—was flagrantly committed here and the gang goes unmolested.

This presents quite an interesting case for the district attorney, perhaps, and the United States government. If Macon cannot handle a handful of lawbreakers, it is probable we may have a demonstration of what can be done higher up. It is sickening to see civilization go to pieces in a twinkling.

SPRINGFIELD ILL REGISTER
OCTOBER 7, 1922

HOW TO STOP LYNCHINGS.

The state of Georgia has had nine lynchings within sixty days, according to the press reports, and the statement of the sheriff from whom the latest victim was taken by the mob brings up again the ever disputed question as to how far an officer of the law should go in protecting a prisoner when his own life is at stake.

This sheriff said: "There was nothing we could do but surrender the negro or get killed ourselves."

Notwithstanding the gravity of the offense with which the negro was charged, which was an attack on a young woman, this sheriff was bound to consider this man as innocent of the crime until he had been tried and found guilty, and it could hardly be a question as to whether one life should be given preference over another, but whether a sworn officer of the law should regard his oath of office or not.

There was something that this officer of the law could have done besides surrendering his prisoner. He could have stood his ground and fought the mob. If he had done so bravely and determinedly it is likely that he would have succeeded in saving the life of his prisoner.

And there is no reasonable excuse for his bartering a life that was in his custody even to save his own life.

Most lynchings could be prevented if peace officers were brave and honorable enough to do their duty in the face of danger.

SAVANNAH GA NEWS
SEPTEMBER 24, 1922

LIBERTY COUNTY'S GRAND JURY.

It is the sincere hope of the Morning News that the men who have been indicted for the lynching near Old Midway will prove that they are innocent. But if they are guilty they should be punished. The men who did the lynching were guilty of a most serious offense against the laws of the state and against the fundamental fact upon which civilization is based. If any group of citizens, acting without warrant of law, can kill men, whether convicted of crime or merely accused of it, the laws may as well all be torn up and the courts dissolved. Too many persons look upon lynchings as offenses primarily against the persons lynched. A few lives are as nothing in the balances against law. The law itself takes that position because the law itself kills. A lynching is infinitely more than the killing of one or two individuals. It is an attack upon that which makes it possible for the population generally to work, eat, sleep, without the need of every household looking to its own protection. If every man had to go armed, had to watch constantly over his loved ones, had to make sure that his home was barricaded before he could safely leave it, there would be a return to the days of savagery. Civilization would be impossible.

It is a cause of much gratification that the grand jurors of Liberty county have had the moral courage to find true bills against men who are by that act accused of lynching two negroes. They are men who respect their oaths, who believe in the need and supremacy of law, who know that a lynching is not a mere fatal brawl, but a direct attack upon that law which is the one safeguard of civilization against the forces that would tear it down. This thought, that lynchings are attacks upon civilization, ought to be uppermost in the minds of the people of Georgia, of grand jurors and petit jurors, of the mass of the people who make up popular sentiment, because public opinion and the conduct of grand and petit jurors will determine the degree in which law is upheld.

It needs no national laws to put an end to lynching; it needs only for the people themselves to see clearly that it is as much a violation of law to lynch criminals as it is for criminals to commit crimes, and that the punishment should be as quick and certain in the one case as in the other. Lynchings do not prevent crimes; they merely add to their number. They increase lawlessness, because they themselves are lawless. They create in some minds the idea that the law may be torn up provided not one man but a body of men does the tearing. And that is a very bad thing to do. It is high time for this idea to be removed from the minds of some persons in Georgia.

That one of the indicted men in this case is an official will lend special interest to it. The evidence when the cases come to trial will be followed carefully by the public because the public ought to want one of two things, either the punishment of the indicted men if they are guilty, or their quick acquittal if they are innocent; it should want one no less than the other. It is not a question of the killing of negroes, but of the attack on the law that came when the negroes were killed. That is the thing to remember.

NEITHER your time nor attention will be taken up with the latest from Harvard college, or university, which, one or the other, is said to be still bulldozing Jews.

You know Jews; know their history, if you know any history at all; also you know that without that history time could bring you nothing definite about what went on further back.

Jews can fight their own battles, because though conquered and enslaved many a time they have never been licked.

They always come out on top; usually holding a 90 days' note of the man that did the conquering.

If Harvard can afford to browbeat Jews, why Jews can afford the sight.

* * *

You complain all the time; of first one thing, then another.

First, one of your writers goes off into hysterics with a book full of literary prayers. "Isn't he smart?" you say. Yes, in a way; the wrong way. Chicago Defender

Then here comes one brandishing a sword or a brickbat. Up steps another, crying: "Let's beat it; let's walk the water and make it to Africa." 9/30/22

How about Jews, bearing afflictions, scorn, scoffing, abuse? How about Jews, a non-white people, in whose story is ALL that men think or do?

Listen to Rabbi Samuel Abrams, leader of Jews, as he states the case of Jews. He is rapping Harvard:

"Here is a people which has given the world of its finest and best, which has endowed it with sweet singers, with thinkers and seers; a people whose civic pride and exalted patriotism have raised them high in the councils of the nations; a people whose soul restlessly thirsts for knowledge, and whose contributions to knowledge have lifted them to rank as a great luminary in the firmament of the world.

"Yet that people alone is denied the opportunity and privilege of further instruction. * * * * * They do not seek reward nor recognition. They have neve sought it. * * * * * * Something must be done; something will be done. * * * * * We must have patience, though. * * * * *"

* * *

Now consider your lot; then compare what you claim for your people with what you KNOW about Jews.

Rabbi Abrams had his say on the first day of the year 5683. Free Masons and Jews hold this to be the exact measure of the distance traveled since time stepped out.

Jews had charge of the situation.

Why fret? Look into the faces of your children; then shorten the road stretching out before you with faith. Remember that YOU were born here.

Don't let anybody fool you. You alone are NATIVE to this soil.

This writer closes these reflections with a red school house verse:

"Courage, brother, do not stumble,
Though your path be dark as night;
There is a star to guide the humble—
TRUST IN GOD AND DO THE RIGHT."

Also, Harvard isn't worth worrying about. Even Harvard can't take your brains if you have any. Neither can it give you any if you haven't any. Colored students have done as much for Harvard as Harvard has done for them.

Jews: Moses, David, Job, Solomon, Paul, Jacob, Joseph, Abraham, Isaac, Isaiah, JESUS.

All being forerunners of Julius Rosenwald.

ATLANTA GA CONSTITUTION
OCTOBER 8, 1922

Georgia's Lynching Epidemic

(From The Springfield Republican.)

The ninth lynching in 60 days, which took place in Georgia Thursday, should stimulate constructive thought by the congressmen from that state who voted solidly against the Dyer anti-lynching bill when it came up in the house at the last session. Lynching is a "local issue," in the opinion of these men. There should be time during the recess of congress to exercise practical leadership in dealing with the issue.

The sheriff from whom the latest victim was taken by a mob of 50, some of them masked, explains that he and his deputies, though aware of reports that a lynching was contemplated, were taken by surprise, and he is quoted as saying, "There was 'nothing we could do but surrender the negro or get killed ourselves.'" The negro, it appears, was charged with an attack upon a young woman, who, however, escaped without injury. He was being held for trial and his attorneys are reported to have planned to attempt to establish an alibi. There seems to be no reason for supposing that the law established by the people of the state of Georgia would not have taken its course.

The sheriff says he recognized some of the members of the mob and will present their names to the grand jury. If he and his men were in as much danger as he seems to have believed, this course would be rather courageous. If the names are presented, if the grand jury finds a true bill, if the indicted men are convicted and if they are given such sentences as justice demands the best that could be done will have been done. There are a good many "ifs" in the condition. They are what give weight to the national demand represented by the Dyer bill.

Lynchings — 1922
Discussions.

Negro Press. (Kansas)

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Mob Violence No Respector Of Race Or Sex.

Negro Star 11-24-22
Wichita, Kansas

(Creston News Service)

BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 24—Mob violence is no record of race or sex is the contention of the women who are the moving spirits in the Anti-Lynching Crusaders, a newly formed organization representing every state in the union. These women are under the leadership of Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, formerly president of the National Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, and winner of the Spingarn Medal for distinguished service rendered during 1921. The organization is working in conjunction with the National Association for the Advancement for Colored People and during the past few months have been able to enlist the co-operation and support of some of the leading white editors and thinkers throughout the country in this movement.

Lynching — 1922
Discussion.

Negro Press: Kentucky.

1010

BREAK UP LYNCHING.

Louisville News 6/3/22

"We regret to notice the outbreak of lynch law in the State of Texas. Four or five negroes have recently been put to death by mobs in that great commonwealth in the last few weeks, and one or more of these outrages have been accompanied by atrocities that make the heart sick.

The South must purge itlesf of crime of this kind. We notice many references in the South to the carnival of crime that has existed on the streets of Chicafio. That is bad enough, but lynch law is as bad or owrse. Lynch law is a disgrace to a civilized people; there is absolutely no excuse for it. The State that fails to suppress it is playing with fire, and perhaps, with a consuming fire."

This was taken from the editorial columns of the Louisville Post, a Democratic newspaper. Ben Johnson, Democratic Congressman from Bardstown, Ky., thought like the Post and voted for the Dyer Anti-lynching bill.

But Messrs. Langley, Ogden and Ernst—all Republicans, elected by Negroes—have not opened their mouths for this bill.

There will be a call soon for every Black Man and woman who refuses longer to be a tool and a fool for the Republican party to join the Lincoln Independent Party and run a Negro for Congress.

Why vote for men like Ogden and Ernst who fail us at crucial times? Why support a party overyhelmingly in the majority in Congress that stalls and fourflushes over a bill that means so much to us as Negroes and as Aemricans?

The only way to teach these people a lesson is to run a Negro for Congress and vote for him. There is not a Negro in the country who, if he were in Ogden's or Ernsts' place, would not vote for the Dyer bill.

The argument a Colored man could not be elected does not get anywheer from the simple fact that the white men we do elect do not speak for us, nor to us, after election.

Lynchings — 1922
Discussions

Negro Press (Maryland)

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TEXAS LYNCHES EIGHTH VICTIM SOAKED IN OIL

Burning At Conroe, Texas, Makes Ninth Lynching In The South During the Month of May

CROWDS ON HAND

Mobs Estimated at 2,000 Attend Big Spectacle in Public Squares

Houston, Texas, May 25.—When Joseph Winters, 19 years old, was burned to death in the Court House Square at Conroe, Saturday, the total number of lynchings in this State for the month of May was eight.

When Charles Atkins, 15 years old, was burned at the stake last Thursday a mob of two hundred laughed with glee as he was chained to a tree and tortured over a slow fire for fifteen minutes.

Here in the May lynching record:

Kirvin, Texas, May 6:
Snap Curry,
J. H. Varney,
Moses Jones,
Thomas Cornish.

The first three were burned, the fourth hanged.

Davisboro, Georgia, May 18:
Charles Atkins, 15.

Plantersville, Texas, May 18:
Joe Early, hanged to a tree.

Texarkanna, Texas, May 19:
Hullen Owens.

Conroe, Texas, May 20:
Joseph Winters, aged 19.

Alleyton, Texas, May 20:
Mose Bozier, 60 years old.

Business Suspended

Business was practically suspended around Davisboro, Ga., and crowds of men from towns and countryside searched for Charlie Atkins, 18 years, suspected of murdering Mrs. Billy Kitchens, white rural mail carrier. Atkins was captured by a crowd of several hundred men who trailed him from his parent's' home, declaring that he had killed the woman in order to secure possession of her auto.

The cracker mob's treatment to Atkins was particularly brutal. He was taken to the scene of the crime, lashed to a tree and a small fire built around him. When his clothing was burned away and his body seared, the mob demanded a confession.

Atkins cried in pain and lynchers declared he implicated another colored man. His pain was so acute, no credence can be given to his statement. More gasoline was secured and poured over his pain-wracked body and members of the mob amused themselves by shooting it full of holes.

Burning In Public Square

The burning of Joe Winters in the public square at Conroe, Texas drew a larger crowd than the annual visit of the circus. Winters was accused of attacking a fourteen year old white girl. Bloodhounds were used to capture him and he was chased through three counties. Newspapers advertised the event and thousands of persons, including old and young women and children watched him chained to a peg in the public square and a match applied to his clothing saturated with gasoline.

A mob had to batter down Miller County jail in order to get Hullen Owens, charged with shooting a white man. The savage crowd dragged him at the end of a rope until he was dead and then burned his body in the public square.

60 Year Old Beaten

All of the other men lynched were comparatively young, but Moses Bozier who was tortured and hanged to a tree by a mob of several hundred persons Saturday was over sixty. He was also accused of attacking a white girl. A mob of several hundred persons beat him till he could not stand and then hanged his body to a tree.

Early Broke Jail

John Early, caught by a mob after breaking jail near Plentersville, Thursday, swung to a tree by a mob consisting largely of alleged Ku Klux Klansmen. He was accused of assault but hearing that he was going to be lynched, attempted to make his escape.

IN RACE FOR LIFE

Irwinton, Ga., May 24—Captured by officers after his escape from a mob about to lynch him, James Denson is being rushed with all speed to Macon jail, which is said to be mob proof.

The Kirwin, Texas, Lynchings

Five o'clock last Saturday morning, a mob of five hundred white fiends gathered in a square in Kirwin, Texas and burned three colored men to the stake. Wood and coal oil were used to insure a blaze twenty or thirty feet high, but to prolong the agony, the three men were burned one at a time. It was noted that the preparations for the burnings took place deliberately, with the full connivance of the police, and that practically the whole countryside stayed up all night, gathered in the public square in front of a church to witness the SPECTACLE.

Several hours later the same day, Senator Lodge, (R) of Massachusetts, arose in the Senate at Washington read into the Record a petition signed by twenty-four State governors, twenty-nine presidents of colleges, and hundreds of leading churchmen and business men, "earnestly urging the Senate o enact promptly the Dyer anti-Lynching Bill."

However the Senate was so occupied with passing on appointments of postmasters in places like Glenarm, Maryland, attacks on Attorney General Daugherty and the tariff that Mr. Lodge had to introduce his resolution "out of order." Fact is that after a month's consideration the Senate Judiciary Committee has not reported the Bill to the Senate for action.

Meantime the President's oratory about stopping "barbaric lynchings," the action of the House in passing the bill and the Republican party pledge to enact legislation to put an end to lyncning fall as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals on the Southern Negroes' eor who are soaked in oil and burned at the stake while the Senate dilly dallies.

Just suppose Freestone County had to pay $10,000 for each Negro burned, as required by the Dyer Bill, and every member of the mob faced prosecution at the hands of the Federal authorities. Does any sane person believe Kirwin would have enjoyed its little three ring circus last Saturday morning?

Of course not, but was not there also another called Nero, WHO FIDDLED WHILE ROME BURNED?

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussions.

Negro Press (Missouri)

1005

THREE MORE LYNCHINGS

Within a week's time three lynchings have been reported as having taken place in the South.

Texas has added another to her lead with Georgia and Arkansas following.

Nothing, as will be expected, will be done toward punishing those who participated in this popular pastime.

The lynching and burning of Negroes in the South is not a case of outburst of passion brought about or caused by some henious crime. But it has become an established program of dealing with Negroes suspected of crime. Not alone are those suspected, victims of mob-murder, but in many cases, absolutely innocent persons have been lynched and burned at the stake.

The several States where these outrages are committed in the name of "white supremacy," they have by inactivity or indifference declared their inability to deal with the situation, and have flatly denied the Negroes the equal protection of the laws as provided in the constitution of the United States.

President Harding and the present Congress know and are fully aware of this condition, yet Congress has thus far failed and refused to take any steps or enact sufficient adequate laws to protect the lives and property of the Negroes which are being ruthlessly taken without due process of law.

The Southern Senators and those who enjoy the lynching bee, will be the first and loudest in their efforts to obstruct the measure when it comes up for consideration in the Senate.

The righteousness of the measure is so strong until the opponents, found themselves without an excuse to oppose the bill, except to say it is unconstitutional without one scintilla of proof of their arguments.

The truth of the matter is, the lovers of the sport are those who hold human life wrapped in a dark skin cheap, want a little longer lease on mob-murder. They love the game

St. Louis Argus

WE ARE FROM MISSOURI, TOO,

Louisville Courier 10/21/22

(By the Associated Negro Press.)

St. Louis Oct. 19.—The lynching of Roy Hammond at Bowling Green, this State, still is unavenged by the State authorities, though the attorney general's office has every facility with which to secure some measure of justice for the Negro population of the State. It is time for the Colored people to have an accounting on some of these things. The trouble is that the same people who are demanding action are now whooping it up for the men from whom they expect some petty election favor. As long as such practices continue little can be expected in the way of justice; it is too easy for those responsible to buy off those in a position to make the greatest demands.

ST JOSEPH MO NEWS PRESS
OCTOBER 6, 1922

THE WAY TO STOP LYNCHING.

An epoch-making event in southern Georgia is the indictment of several white men charged with participating in the lynching of two negroes in Liberty County on the night of June 30. The case was aggravated by the fact that the murdered men had been convicted, and although they had been temporarily reprieved by the governor, would doubtless have been executed had the law been allowed to take its course.

Heretofore it has been almost impossible to secure indictments in many parts of the South against alleged lynchers. Although there has always existed a strong undercurrent of opposition against mob law, the numbers of those who have participated in lynchings is often so large and their influence so great that it has been useless to proceed against them.

The finding of indictments in the present case gives sign, then, of a greatly awakened public sentiment. Georgia has a bad record for lynchings, over 100 persons having been put to death by irresponsible mobs in the past seven years. Evidently the people of the state are beginning to realize that this kind of thing cannot go on indefinitely without bringing the law into utter contempt.

Wilmington Advocate

Anti-Lynching Crusaders Have Series Of Meetings Throughout The State

Wilmington, Delaware

Delaware City, Middletown, Second Ward, Wilmington, Seaford, Townsend, St. Georges, Millsboro Have Enthusiastic Rallies

11-4-22

The past week has been a series of meetings of the most effective kind under the auspices of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders. The women and men all over the state have rallied to the call to arms sent out by the Crusaders, and enthusiasm runs high wherever the battle cry has been sounded.

DELAWARE CITY.—On Thursday evening at the old school house George L. Beechum staged a huge and enthusiastic meeting. The principal speakers were Charles H. Colbourn and Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson. The latter was the first speaker, and dwelt upon the work of the Crusaders, and showed how their program, "September—Organize; October—Pray and Educate; November—Vote and Pray, and December, Pray and Subscribe" is bearing fruit. She showed the necessity for close co-operation on November 7, and how the Crusaders have pledged themselves all over the country to relegate to private life those misrepresentatives who have failed the race in the hour of need.

Mr. Colbourn's speech was in his old-time fervor and spirit, and wrought the audience to the highest pitch of enthusiasm. He called the hearers to "Cut Cale Layton" and show their manhood. He received thunderous applause from start to finish.

Mr. Beechum made the speech of his life. He knew his people, and he has them with him from start to finish. He is firm in his determination to emancipate the Negro from the thralldom of party over race.

MIDDLETOWN.—On Monday night at Dale M. E. Church Rev. William E. Boland called a meeting for the purpose of hearing of the work of the Crusadars. The speakers were Robert J. Nelson and Mrs. Dunbar-Nelson. The church was crowded, and everyone was interested to the point of enthusiasm. Mrs. Nelson dwelt upon the reasons why it is possible to be a good Republican and yet cut off the ticket those persons inimical to our race, and called attention to the fact that in past years, white Republicans have not hesitated to vote for Democrats if it was in accordance with some "deal" they wished to put across. Yet these same pseudo-Republicans think it a capital sin for colored people to do as they do. It is the old doctrine of the Jesuits, said Mrs. Nelson, "Do as I say do, not as I do."

Mr. Nelson paid a glowing tribute to the colored people of the state in their efforts to rid themselves of the incubus of race disloyalty and hireling leadership.

Rev. Boland backed up both speakers by assuring them of the loyalty of Middletown, and the determination of the Negro voters of the community to stick to their friends.

SECOND WARD.—On Tuesday night a rousing meeting in the South Side Athletic Association Club Rooms was held. John Dennis, president, in the chair. Rousing speeches were made by Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson, Mrs. J. B. Stubbs, John W. Thompson, Robert J. Nelson, Dr. J. B. Stubbs, Courtlandt Seeney, Richard Craig and others. The Second Ward is 100 per cent for its race and will not tolerate any man or men who are against the interests of the Negro.

SEAFORD.—On Wednesday evening Rev. W. T. Purnell called a meeting at Seaford to hear Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson. A full account of this will be given in a later issue.

TOWNSEND AND ST. GEORGES.—Both had rousing Anti-Lynching meetings on Thursday and Friday nights, while MILLSBORO, in Sussex county, will stage one of the biggest rallies of the season on Saturday night.

N Y C WORLD
OCTOBER 13, 1922

THE LYNCHING EVIL.

To the Editor of The World:

The World recently carried an account of the lynching of a Negro at Wrightsville, Ga., marking, as stated by you, the ninth murder of this nature within the past sixty days. It is further stated that the guilt of the victim had not been established and that grave doubt existed as to his responsibility for the alleged attempt at crime.

Your opposition to the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was undoubtedly founded in honesty, but in the light of the record cited above, does it not appear essential to the preservation of the fair name of our country that swift and effective measures should be adopted to restrain those who so consistently indicate lack of regard for law and order and utter disregard for the principles of justice? Your opposition to the anti-lynching legislation was predicated upon the viewpoint that it invaded the sacred principle of "State rights," and the question of the constitutionality of the measure was also brought to the fore in your editorial columns. In view of the nearness of interstate relations, rapidly increasing because of inventions, &c., the doctrine of the rights of the States as compared with those of the Federal Government loses virtue with each passing day, and people are accepting the conclusion that the States and Territories go to form one family of Americans, each member perforce concerned in the well being of its fellows. As to the constitutionality of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, the large legal minds of the country find themselves to be at variance, and in the last analysis the constitutionality of the measure would have to be determined by the United States Supreme Court.

When a single State in the Union, no matter how backward in its approach to civilization, can achieve a record of a lynching each week without adequate attempt to protect the accused, to punish those guilty of the lynching or to properly investigate the circumstances surrounding the same, it becomes apparent that those who believe in the founding principles of our Government should determine upon remedial measures. The State of Georgia has had full freedom and full opportunity to place itself on record in these circumstances, and its failures are written in the record cited by you.

The distinguished founder of The World placed at its masthead a clear declaration of principle, and in our opinion that publication has sought to live up to that declaration. That confession of faith would appear to demand that your influence should be given to aid the crusade to rid America of what has become a national shame, and there is wonderment because of your complacency in the circumstances. G. WASHINGTON,
Secretary the Appomattox Republican Club.

New York, Oct. 8.

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions.

Negro Press (New York.)

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FIVE STATES REPRESENTED AT ANTI-LYNCHING CONFERENCE HELD IN HARLEM

New York News - 11-25-22

Will Raise $100,000 to Fight Mob Law—Ultimate Success Seems Assured

The Executive Committee of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders held its third meeting in New York, with five States represented. The chairman, Mrs. M. B. Talbert, reported that the movement was splendidly started, with over 700 key women in twenty-five States hard at work. Ultimate success seemed assured. The committee made the following statement in answer to many inquiries:

The movement owes its origin to a statement made at the annual conference of the N. A. A. C. P. at Newark, June, 1922, by Congressman L. C. Dyer, in which he said: "If 1,000,000 people were united in the demand upon the Senate that the Dyer bill be passed there would be no question of its passage." A small committee met immediately and organized a campaign.

The committee does not believe in duplicating organizations; there are already more than enough for all the work there is to be done. What is needed is concerted effort for specific objects. The committee is therefore organized to raise money for one object and then to disband January 1, 1923.

The one object of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders is to stop lynching and mob violence. There is no division of opinion on the imperative need of this among decent people, black or white.

The one clear and practical program so far outlined for the accomplishment of this end is that of the N. A. A. C. P., namely, to pass the Dyer bill and to enforce it. Whether we accept or not the whole program of the N. A. A. C. P., we have yet to meet a single intelligent person of any race who does not accept and indorse their anti-lynching program. Moreover, we know that all moneys handled by the N. A. A. C. P are honestly administered and publicly accounted for.

The Anti-Lynching Crusaders have therefore, determined to raise $1,000,000, or as near that amount as possible, by January 1, and to turn this sum over to the Anti-Lynching Fund of the N. A. A. C. P. in trust, to be used to pass and enforce the Dyer anti-lynching bill and to put down mob violence.

Some have doubted if such a sum is necessary. It is, and we have asked the executive office of the N. A. A. C. P. to outline roughly how it can effectively and economically be expended. They suggest the following methods:

1. Publicity.
2. Pressure upon Congress.
3. Pressure upon State Legislatures.
4. Investigation.
5. Legal processes.

1. Publicity.—The Negro has never given his cause proper publicity. We propose, if we can obtain the funds, a campaign of newspaper publicity patterned after the Red Cross and Child Welfare campaigns. A campaign where full-page statements of the facts concerning lynching shall appear in every influential daily paper throughout the United States, and that this shall be repeated two, three or more times until not a single person who reads the daily papers shall be ignorant of the fact that we are the only country that burns human beings at the stake; that 3,346 people have been lynched, and that rape is not the primary cause of lynching. Such a campaign could be started for $10,000 and would, to be complete, cost $100,000.

2. Pressure Upon Congress.—The country must be aroused by letters, telegrams and articles to pour in upon the Senate a stream of requests for immediate action. Such a campaign throughout the United States cannot be completely inaugurated for less than $25,000.

3. Pressure Upon State Legislatures—Our efforts to strengthen State laws must not lag for a moment. Three or four States have adequate anti-lynching laws. Campaigns must be inaugurated to secure the passage of such laws in other States. This should cost from $10,000 to $100,000. Moreover, if the Dyer bill fails of passage before March 1 the present bill must be reintroduced in the next Congress. If the Dyer anti-lynching bill is passed the campaign against lynching, mob violence and legal defense has just begun, and we must immediately be ready for two things:

4. Investigation.—The investigation of every case of lynching and mob violence which occurs. These investigations must be far more thorough than in the past, for on them we must be able to build court cases with facts and witnesses. This will mean the use of detective agencies, local investigators, documentary research, etc. It is safe to say that in the next few years from $50,000 to $250,000 could easily and economically be spent on such investigations.

5. Legal Processes.—Finally, there are the actual law cases. The Federal Government will probably attend to the actual prosecution, but we must stand ready to help in the preparation of the cases, the gathering of witnesses, etc. From $100,000 to $250,000 is a small estimate of the cost of preparing such cases. This means that not less than $100,000 ought to be available this moment for the anti-lynching campaign and that it will take at least $1,000,000 to stop lynching and mob violence in the United States and provide legal defense. These figures may seem large. They are not large. The difficulty with us is that our ideas of the cost of emancipation have always been too small.

The Executive Committee of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders accepts this program and will seek earnestly to raise the necessary funds. In the raising of these funds no salaries or commissions of any sort are being paid. The work of the Crusaders, both officers and others, is entirely voluntary and uncompensated in any way. Only actual expenses are being met, and these are being met by funds raised outside of money contributed to the anti-lynching fund. Every cent of every dollar contributed to the anti-lynching fund is to be held in trust by the Guaranty Trust Company of New York City, to be turned over as directed.

LYNCHING CONDEMNED BY NEGRO CONFERENCE

Atlanta Constitution

Governor Is Asked to Probe Exodus of Negroes From Georgia.

12-13-22

Resolutions condemning lynching, commenting on the migrations of negroes from the state of Georgia, and sponsoring better educational facilities among the negroes were passed Thursday at a mass-meeting, incidental to the C. M. E. conference in progress at the Butler Street C. M. E. church of Atlanta.

Bishop R. S. Williams, president of the conference, presided, Bishop J. S. Flipper, of the A. M. E. church, presided over part of the conference that followed the mass meeting.

The principal addresses Thursday were made by J. A. Bray, educational secretary of the conference; W. B. Hill, of the department of education; Jesse O. Thomas, field secretary of the National Urban league; J. A. Martin, editor of the Sunday school publications of the C. M. E. church; Dr. W. B. Wragg, of the American Bible society, of New York; W. B. Wilson, C. A. Wingfield, W. B. Ward; J. A. Ragan, Lee O'Neil and H. D. Stallworth.

Better Schools Urged.

The speakers all emphasized the point that when better common schools are secured, and a better trained ministry is put in the field, the race problems will cease to assume serious proportions.

The resolutions passed at the mass meeting follow:

The leading colored citizens of Atlanta and Georgia are watching with much concern the movement of large numbers of negroes of all parts of the state northward.

We appreciate the difficulty of their becoming adjusted, especially at this season of the year to the economic and social life of the urban centers in the north and west to which most of them are going.

This spontaneous exodus of large numbers of colored people, many of whom are substantial farmers, as tenants and landowners, has stimulated a desire on the part of the thinking members of the race to inquire into the reason for their going.

It has been stated through the public press that their leaving is occasioned by the presence of the boll weevil and other seasonal depressions of an agricultural nature.

There is a feeling abroad in the minds of a large number of the leaders of our group that all the facts incident to this general and spontaneous exodus, are not covered in the statement in reference to the boll weevil, and that a thorough inquiry should be made by an agency created for that purpose to ascertain all of the facts.

Appeal to Governor.

Therefore, be it resolved, That the governor, Thomas W. Hardwick, be requested to appoint a representative commission composed of an equal number of substantial, fair-minded white and colored citizens, to investigate the cause of so many negroes in all parts of the state leaving in such large numbers during the past few months and at the present time, as a basis of eliminating the cause thus discovered in so far as it relates to protection of life, liberty and limb as well as industrial and economic readjustment.

That the attitude of the white state Baptist convention and the women's inter-racial relation commission of the Methodist church, south, as representatives of the Christian church, comes at a time when the church can no longer hold its peace upon the direful acts of the mobs in the taking of human life; and is therefore calculated to strengthen the faith of the negro in the attempts of our southern whites to wipe out this, the most heinous crime of history.

This question of lynching and mob violence is of deeper concern to us than the method of eradication. And what is more grave than disputed rights as to national and state authorities in the matter, is the fact that lynching increases as to numbers and progresses in its brutality while state and national government each, seems powerless to check this awful evil, and we call upon all religious organizations, the pulpit and press to follow the example of the state Baptist convention and the women's inter-racial commission in arousing sentiment against these evils.

That we endorse the Rosenwall program of the common schools in Georgia and the south and call upon each minister to give every encouragement to the state authorities and their agents in attempting to build these schools throughout Georgia for our needy people.

N Y C WORLD,
JANUARY 6, 1923

FLORIDA'S RACE WAR.

Leading newspapers throughout the South have made the defeat of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill the occasion for a general warning that the States must take more effective measures to put an end to mob violence. If they continue to shirk their duty in dealing sternly with the crime of lynching, then inevitably the higher powers of the Federal Government will be invoked in obedience to public opinion. It is a critical situation that the South faces, and its thoughtful citizens more and more realize the need of vigorous action in conquering the mob spirit that has subjected Southern States to so much reproach.

Especial force is given to those appeals on the part of the Southern press by very recent events. There have been at least three lynchings of Negroes since the first of the year. At Rosewood, in Levy County, Fla., a race war has broken out that threatens to lead to the gravest consequences. It is the usual story of a reported attack on a white woman, followed by the lynching of a Negro, not in the belief that he was the actual criminal but on the charge that he had "transported in a wagon for several miles a Negro suspected of the crime." From that started fighting between armed white men and Negroes, which the county authorities professed to be unable to stop How many have been killed is not yet known, but the utter breakdown of the law is admitted.

Those are significant words that the Atlanta Constitution prints in connection with the brutal murder only last week of an inoffensive old Negro of seventy by drunken white men: "If an end is not put to this sort of thing, and if a small element of brazen, barbaric brutes can disgrace the State by their cold-blooded murders and escape punishment, the State will be fortunate if its loss is confined to the blacks who are leaving it, for the menace developing from these unwhipped criminals has become such as to threaten whites as well as blacks."

The answer is that an end must be put to mob murder and lawlessness not for reasons of color but for obvious reasons of law and justice, which know no discrimination.

WOMEN AND LYNCHING.

During the thirty-three years since 1889, eighty-three women have been lynched in the United States. Of these, seventeen were of Caucasian blood. Mississippi heads the list with fifteen instances. Texas comes next with ten, and Alabama third with nine. Many of these disgraceful episodes have been based on the charge of murder, but in a surprising number no reason has been discoverable. In the same period of time the total number of victims of lynch law was 3,436, of whom white men and women numbered 718.

An attempt is being made to enroll a million women among the "Anti-Lynching Crusaders," who will seek to create public sentiment throughout the country against this most abhorrent of all the examples of mob violence. The organization will also support the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in congress. This proposal for giving the federal courts jurisdiction in cases where it seems certain that local public sentiment will make a fair trial of lynching cases impossible was before congress in the session just ended and failed to pass the Senate because of lively opposition by Senator Pat Harrison and other southerners.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
OCTOBER 13, 1922

It is easy to be skeptical about the effectiveness of this measure if passed; mob violence is a condition extremely difficult to eradicate, because its existence is usually a fair indication of the cultural level reached by the community which tolerates it. It is also true that the mob acts on impulse, under a contagion of excitement which ignores possible consequences. Even if the federal government patrolled the whole countryside in the south with troops it could do little to stop any mob which had made up its mind to act. All this, however, is no reason why the efforts to abate the evil should be halted. Either this is a civilized country or it is not; if it is, we should take every reasonable step not only to prevent crime when we can, but to punish it when committed. The million ladies of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders—if so many are enrolled—will be fighting on the side of light against the side of darkness. Such a struggle is always worth joining.

WHITE WOMEN SAY LYNCHING DOESN'T PROTECT THEM

Chicago Whip
12-23-22

NEW YORK CITY, Dec. 23.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has called attention to a statement issued by a group of leading white women of North Carolina, affiliated with the commission on interracial co-operation, which denounces mob violence as a method of protecting woman's honor.

The statement of these white women of North Carolina acknowledges the responsibility of white people and Christians in the South to treat colored people with fairness.

"We believe," says the statement, "that every human being should be treated not as a means to another's ends, but as a person whose aspirations toward self-realization must be recognized."

In regard to mob violence the statement is as follows:

"We believe that violence has no place where people lend their support in every possible way to th agencies constituted by the people for the aprehension, trial and punishment of offenders against society. We resent the assertion that criminality can be controlled by lawless outbreaks, and woman's honor protected by savage acts of revenge."

ROCHESTER N Y CHRONICLE
DECEMBER 17, 1922

SOUTHERN INCONSISTENCIES.

Without enterin into argument about the anti-lynching bill, about its advisability or the wisdom of its provisions, it is possible to condemn for inconsistency the reason assigned by many Southern senator for the filibuster they threatened if the bill was forced before the Congress. For the cause they assert to be influencing them is the fact that the bill provided for pre-emption by the Federal government of state's rights. But a number of these same senators have voted for other measures which honest scrutiny and impartial judgment cannot see as less invasions of states rights than would the anti-lynching bill be.

A Southern senator may justify his support of the Eighteenth amendment on the ground that it is the function of the Federal government to legislate for the safety and well being of all the people. But hanging and burning and slaughtering folk uncondemned by court action to such a fate is certainly inimical to the general safety and well being. And the logic of a mind that sees the one as the business of a nation and the other as the business of a state is not easy for many reasonable people to follow. These same Southern senators resent the allegation frequently made that lynching is a Southern state practice in great measure; they have been at pains to cite instances of illegal handling of accused persons, often fatal, in Northern states. If then, lynching needs curbing in North as well as South, why should the Southern senators object to Federal legislation?

N Y C EVE WORLD
JANUARY 2, 1923

No lynchers in the South ever had greater provocation than the assailant of Mrs Brigham gave to the citizens of Orange, N. J., last week.

The calm of the citizens matched the celerity of Jersey justice. Opponents of the Dyer Anti-Lynch Bill should watch the case attentively. The procedure promises to afford a lesson in the better, surer and more effective way of dealing with such outrages.

Says Four Lynchings in 8 Days Rests Squarely Upon U. S. Senators

Wilmington Advocate

One Lynching Every Two Days Since Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill Failed

12/23/22
Wilmington, Del.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, today made public an "Open Letter To Every United States Senator" setting forth that 4 lynchings have occurred in the 8 days from Monday, December 4. when the Senate dropped the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, to December 12.

The letter charges the Southern Senators with being directly responsible for the "outbreak of barbarism, anarchy and degenerate bestiality" which followed the abandonment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, and expresses the hope that there will prove to be sufficient statesmanship in the Congress of the United States to cope with this threat to civilization. The letter follows:

> From December 4, the day the United States Senate abandoned the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. to December 12, there have been four lynchings in this country, one for each two days, one of the victims being publicly tortured and burned at the stake.

This outbreak of barbarism anarchy and degenerate bestiality and the blood of the victims rest upon the heads of those Southern Senators who have obstructed even discussion of the measure to remedy this very condition. And the responsibility rests equally with the Republican majority who surrendered with hardly a struggle to the lynching tactics of the Democrats.

The failure of the United States Senate to consider this measure could be interpreted only as a license to mobs to lynch unmolested. Every United States Senator knows that in more than thirty years the states have failed to check lynching or to punish lynchers. Every United States Senator knows that in failing to stand firm for federal protection and guarantee of trial by law to United States citizens within their own country he was acquiescing in the continuing and increasingly brutal rule of the mob in America.

BUFFALO N Y NEWS
OCTOBER 3, 1922

LYNCHINGS CONTINUE.

In a little more than two months there have been nine lynchings in Georgia. Instead of showing a falling off, mob murder there is on the increase. The state authorities seem to take it as a matter of course that these things should be, for no effort is made to bring the murderers to justice.

The only measure that has been advanced to curb lynchings is the Dyer bill, which long since was passed by the House. The Senate dallied with the measure for many months, then adjourned without taking action on it. Through its neglect the national scandal has grown, until we find Mexico pointing the finger of scorn at us, for some of her people were included in the number slain in the mob murders at Herrin, Ill., last June.

Georgia is one of the most progressive states in the South, but its record in the matter of lynchings is the worst possible. Public sentiment there appears to condone the practice. In the circumstances the national government should act. It is the plain duty of congress to take such steps as will assure to every man his day in court. This rests upon congress as a constitutional obligation.

Lynchings — 1922. Discussion. #975

New York (Negro Press)

THE GOVERNOR OF GEORGIA ATTACKS TUSKEGEE

Governor Hardwick of Georgia recently made a speech before a gathering of county officers in Savannah. His speech was in the traditional spreadeagle, bombastic Southern style which went out of fashion among progressive people more than a generation ago. It, of course, lugged in the "Magna Charta," came down through the "glorious history of the Anglo-Saxon people" and then burst forth into this eulogy on the State of Georgia: "Thank God since then we have had equal justice for all. Today the judge, the officer, the President of the United States, or any man whose office calls for aid in the administration of justice who fails to administer exact justice without fear or favor brings reproach upon his people and upon his government."

After reading these words the question inevitably arises, "What is the use of taking anything in the world seriously if the Governor of Georgia can make such statements and perhaps believe sincerely that he is expressing the truth?

Before closing his speech the Governor paid his respects to the lynching question and in so doing made an attack upon Tuskegee Institute. He questioned the "alleged accurate statistics of Tuskegee which threw an aspersion on our state with their figures on lynching." He went on to say:

> "They tell us that Georgia leads in lynchings. So they do—in the figures submitted by the Tuskegee Institute. Every time a mean Negro—a lawless Negro—takes a gun and the law in his own hands, faces and defies an officer of the law, and that officer is forced to kill him in the defense of law and society's protection—this institute classes this as 'another outrage in Georgia.'
>
> "As governor of your state, I am here to protest in behalf of our state, against such statistics and against the figures of these so-called census takers from Washington, whose reports throw a reflection upon this state's good name."

We think the Governor of Georgia will need to protest against the Tuskegee statistics in some more effective way than by delivering a spread-eagle speech. The figures kept by Tuskegee are accurate and conservative. If anything, they underestimate the lynching evil, for whenever there is a doubtful case the Tuskegee figures omit it.

The Governor should also remember that Tuskegee does not make any original tabulation of these figures but collects them from reports as printed chiefly in the Southern newspapers.

If Governor Hardwick is really anxious to remove the "aspersion" on the State of Georgia, he cannot do it by assailing the lynching statistics of Tuskegee as already recorded. His only chance lies in seeking to change the figures which are still to be recorded.

B'KLYN STAGES SENSATIONAL PARADE AGAINST LYNCHING

New York Amsterdam News

Demonstration Planned by the Rev. Thomas S. Harten, Pastor of Holy Trinity Baptist Church, Stirs Borough Folk 4th of July Afternoon Against Mob Wickedness — Warns Republican Leaders of Party Indifference.

There was something as warm and sensational as fireworks in Brooklyn on the 4th of July afternoon when the great street parade against lynching, which was arranged by the Rev. Thomas S. Harten, Pastor of Holy Trinity Baptist Church, Franklin and DeKalb avenues, was held.

Prior to the parade a great meeting was held in the large tent at Howard avenue and Dean street in which Pastor Harten delivered an address warning the Republican leaders on party indifference. A special feature of the meeting was Evangelist Isaac C. Reddie of Baltimore leading a singing chorus of 50 voices.

"I doubt the sincerity of the Republican party," said the Rev. Mr. Harten, "to enact anti-lynching legislation. It is but a bid for the negro vote this fall. We do not need new bills or laws. Rather do we need the proper enforcement of existing laws. We need the proper enforcement of the 14th and 15th amendments to the Federal Constitution, and we propose to find out why they have not been enforced.

"We will lay the burden at their doors when they come to us for a re-election. It is not the party that will count as will the individual man."

All of the fraternities in the borough had representatives in line, each carrying large placards upon which were inscribed: "Equal Justice for Every Citizen"; "Help Us Remove America's Disgrace"; "Mob Rule Must Go"; "3,436 Human Beings Lynched in America." The parade, which is the first outward demonstration in this borough was promoted by the recently organized Kings County Protective League for the purpose of arousing sentiment here against lynching.

7-12-22

BUFFALO N Y EXPRESS
SEPTEMBER 4, 1922

According to a dispatch from a town in Georgia called Athens: "Jim Reed Long, a negro, who was arrested today charged with having struck Miss Violet Wood, nineteen years old, with an iron bar when she discovered him in the house at Winder, Ga., she was visiting, was lynched by a mob near that place tonight. Long was taken from the sheriff who had him in custody and was hanged to a tree." His was not "the one crime" for which negroes are supposed to be lynched in the South.

AT last accounts Georgia was several knots ahead of her sister Stater in the lynching record of 1922.

N Y C TELEGRAPH
OCTOBER 1, 1922

NOTE by the papers that there [illegible] at to picket Broadway. Competition for actors out of jobs.

N. Y. C. SUN
SEPTEMBER 26, 1922

975

The Way to Stop Lynching.

An epoch making event in southern Georgia is the indictment of several white men charged with participating in the lynching of two negroes in Liberty county on the night of June 30. The case was aggravated by the fact that the murdered men had been convicted and although they had been temporarily reprieved by the Governor, would doubtless have been executed had the law been allowed to take its course.

Heretofore it has been almost impossible to secure indictments in many parts of the South against alleged lynchers. Although there has always existed a strong undercurrent of opposition against mob law, the numbers of those who have participated in lynchings is often so large and their influence so great that it has been useless to proceed against them.

The finding of indictments in the present case gives sign, then, of a greatly awakened public sentiment. Georgia has a bad record for lynchings, over a hundred persons having been put to death by irresponsible mobs in the past seven years. Evidently the people of the State are beginning to realize that this kind of thing cannot go on indefinitely without bringing the law into utter contempt.

It is said that the people of Liberty county began making efforts to run down the lynchers as soon as the crime was reported and the present indictments are the result.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRESS
OCTOBER 16, 1922

Promoting Lynching.

One of the greatest stains on the reputation of the South is its addiction to lynching. Southerners resent the criticisms of Northerners upon this crime, and gleefully point the finger of scorn whenever a community this side of Mason's and Dixon's line has a lynching. But it cannot be denied that lynching is peculiarly a crime of the South, lynchings in the North being but occasional affairs. That not only is no effort made in the South to put an end to this crime, but that it is even encouraged here and there in that part of the country no doubt exists. A news item of the week shows how the people are brought to think of lynching.

In the state prison at Raleigh, North Carolina, on Thursday, a 16-year-old boy was legally hanged for a crime against a young woman. The official of the prison allowed nine women to witness this hanging. One of the women was the victim of the prisoner's crime. It is related in the despatches that she watched the death struggles of the boy with a set smile on her face, paying close attention to every detail. She is reported to have said after the execution that she was satisfied with it. And she said it with a smile.

Of the delicacy of the victim in witnessing the death struggles of her assailant we shall say nothing. But what of the other women and the men that were allowed to witness this execution in this manner? Is it possible that those so bloodthirsty as to gloat over the death of this boy will not, at some other time, when they, as members of a mob, catch a person charged with a like crime or even some other crime, think of hanging their prisoner? In New York state the number of those allowed to witness an execution is limited. They are present as legal witnesses, and must sign their names on the record as such. Men here have been invited to witness executions time and again, and have refused. Newspapermen of many years' experience have refused many invitations to be witnesses or to report executions. But to allow a crowd, and especially to allow women to view a hanging, is to promote the murder spirit in the community, and the South will have lynchings so long as she adheres to this shameful practice.

BLAME IT ON "A BLACK MAN

New York News, 11-27-22

The recent cold blooded lynching in Tennessee of a white farmer and his son by his white neighbors, with their faces blacked, has caused a reopening of the discussion of the alleged criminality of the black race which, in truth, is a part of the criminality of the white race.

Not even colored citizens themselves had ever suspected that they were the victims of such monstrous injustice in this respect until the startling exposé a few years back of the Burns Detective Agency. A former Burns' agent on the stand declared that his superiors ordered him to get Conley's wife in Atlanta to swear that Conley murdered Mary Phagan and that Leo Frank, her employer, was innocent. He testified that his employers also ordered him to have the Carman maid perjure herself. In both these cases the colored women refused to perjure themselves. The question arises how many innocent black men's lives have been sworn away at the hands of witnesses brow-beaten and bribed by the Burns' detectives? How many have gone to the gallows and electric chair for the crimes of others at the hands of the other detective agencies? How many hundreds more throughout the country each year get the extreme penalty at the hands of public detectives and policemen for the crimes of Caucasians? Until some semblance of civilization and justice reigns throughout the South neither redress nor calculation can be had of the unnumbered hosts of black men railroaded or fiendishly murdered by mobs there. The degenerate cracker, either blacked up or unmasked, in the lonely backwoods of the South, in nine cases out of ten, commits or attempts to commit the unmentionable crime for which black men give up their lives generally via the lynchers' noose. Not less frequently does the white woman there, caught in a compromising position by her husband or sweetheart, blame it on a "burly black man," whom other witnesses quickly come forward to swear they saw "prowling about the neighborhood." No redress can now be had for the murder of innumerable innocent blacks by the South every year. But there can be and there should be a rigid country-wide investigation of this manifest policy on the part of detectives to saddle crimes upon colored men. Wherever a colored man is convenient the white culprit and his defenders immediately saddle it upon him. It was true not only in the Frank case and in the famous slashing case at the Aiken, S. C., colony of New York society folk, but in the Carman and other celebrated cases too numerous to mention. Rarely in such circumstances does the white criminal ever expiate his crime. He goes back into society to repeat again and again his crimes, to demoralize throughout his life white society. The punishment of the innocent black man is set down in the calendar of his race's crime, to substantiate the lie about the high percentage of its excessive criminality. The records of all southern lynchings should be searched from the beginning, not only out of justice to the black race, but for the good of Caucasian society as well. For the good of all, the safe and popular alternative of "Blame it on the back man" should be made unsafe and unpopular. The sooner the better. The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill will accomplish that result. That is one capital reason why we are for it.

New York Times

Lynching Not Peculiar to America.

Our British cousins are wont to assume an air of superiority when they talk about mob murders that take place in this country, and they are not sparing of such adjectives as "brutal" and "barbarous" when they discuss the work of our lynchers. Unfortunately we cannot deny the applicability of these characterizations, but we need not be too ready to admit the pretensions to superiority, for across the water, too, brutality and barbarism exist and occasionally manifest themselves as frankly and murderously as they do here.

10/26/22

For instance, nothing much if any worse happens in any of our States than the killing in Glasgow, very recently, of one STEWART, who, in spite of his royal name, was a ship's cook. Just returned from a voyage, he went to a village near Glasgow to get his adopted son, a boy of 5, and bring him into the city. The child was barefoot and grimy, while STEWART was well dressed, and a woman on the tramcar who recognized the boy leaped to the conclusion that he was being carried off by a kidnapper. She set up an outcry, a crowd gathered, and, without giving the man the slightest opportunity to explain that the boy was his, it attacked him. No weapons were used, but in a few minutes the man had been hammered and kicked by the mob so savagely that he died under the blows.

The police arrived in time to make two arrests, and the charge against the prisoners is that in Dalmarnock Road they "assaulted ROBERT ALEXANDER STEWART, beat him with their fists, knocked him down, kicked him, and did murder him."

What happens next may—probably will—illustrate a difference between the administration of justice in Great Britain and the United States; but though two of STEWART's assailants doubtless will be tried, it seems improbable, as they were no worse than the other members of the lynching party, that they will be punished as well as convicted of murder.

Most of the statistics on mob manifestations have been compiled heretofore by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, whose interest is mainly in negroes. There is, however, an organization known as the American Civil Liberties union, which has just reported that more than 800 persons were victims of mob violence from September 1, 1920, to June 1, 1922. The figures include 85 lynchings, 51 tar-and-feather cases, 127 floggings and the remainder forcible mob deportations. Five of the victims were women and less than a third of the whole were negroes. That last statement is significant.

BUFFALO N Y EXPRESS
NOVEMBER 24, 1922

NATIONAL DISGRACE.

There is a sharp division of opinion between Governor Parker and Representative Ransdell of Louisiana as to the Ku Klux situation in that state. It is a pity if political or personal rivalry should divide those who should be fighting the Klan. It is refreshing to see a Democratic senator, Walsh of Massachusetts, on the right side.

It is disquieting, however, to learn that the housecleaning will have to begin in Washington, where the Ku Klux are reported to be intrenched in some of the departments.

Lynchings—1922

Discussions of

Negro Press, (Northern).

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Pittsburgh, Pa. American 11-3-22

FOOLS AND BLIND

We have done our utmost to discover from what source the Negro editors got their information that the Dyer Bill would be passed in a special session of Congress to be called soon after the election. Many of our editors have flashed this intelligence all over the country for the consumption of unsuspecting readers. How do these editors know that there will be a special session of Congress? We have read and heard a great deal concerning this special session but the event most prominently mentioned in this connection is the passing of the Ship Subsidy Bill. This is a measure to save the life of our merchant marine and has nothing to do with saving the lives of Negroes and others from the mob.

The optimism of our press in the matter of the Anti-Lynching Bill is astounding. As far as we know absolutely nothing has come from Mr. Harding or the Republican leaders in the Senate, to reassure any of us in the matter of this important legislation. Such optimism as displayed by some of the Negro editors is a quality of mind possessed only by the infantile, the senile or the insane. Such tommyrot is not what one would expect from responsible, intelligent and independent leaders of public opinion.

Negro voters are forewarned that it is dangerous for them to give their support to the Republican Party in next weeks election simply because they have had some vague promises on the Dyer Bill. If Mr. Harding cared one iota about this bill and his party's election platform, he would come forth with a strong announcement urging passage of the bill and stating openly that Congress would be called for this purpose. This would be the method of a strong independent man. Of course, Mr. Harding, "our great President," is not this type of man. He has never been this type. If he were he would have insisted on the passage of the Dyer Bill before the adjournmnt of the last Congress.

But such a course was not necessary. Negro votes will come anyhow. The motto of the Negro voter is—"Though you slay me, kick me out of the party, see me lynched, disfranchised and segregated, yet will I follow you and vote for you"—such a motto as only a Balaam's ass would live by.

There is a certain group of black and white leaders that keep this slogan constantly before the Negro. White men know that the Negro press, Negro preachers, ward heelers and other sycophants can always be found ready to becloud our minds with any sort of political bunk.

If the Negro voter is fooled again he would have only himself to blame. Warning after warning has been given and if he is content to go on as in the past he should cease to proclaim his essential equality with other men and races.

Lynchings – 1922
Discussions

Negro Press (Ohio)

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HELL HATH ENLARGED HERSELF

5/13/22 Cleveland Call

AT Kirvin, Texas, three men were burned last Saturday as a result of an attack on a 17 year old girl, with the same good grace as a yard man would burn rubbish lest it be scattered by the winds.—Moreso, for nearly six hundred persons turned out to witness the spectacle, and to give cheer, while another page was turned in the book of America's damnable atrocities.

What right shall America ever have to place herself beside other nations of the earth so long as she allows her citizens to be burned alive at a stake and almost eaten by a group overhopeful to dominate—?—what does she mean by sending broadcast the damnfool propaganda that she gives liberty to all humanity—?—"America," is the only nation's name that appears on the catalogue of civilization to tolerate such abominations—The only nation that burns its subjects and dance to their wails of agony.

"Hell Hath Enlarged Herself and Opened Her Mouth Without Measure."

America shall not long endure while this practice continues, no moreso than could Rome, Greece and Babylon, for already the hand begins to write its message upon the conscience-wall of her contemporaries, who shall hold her to account, and in the day of reckoning she shall not be allowed to rub out one word of it. Hell, hath enlarged herself without measure and all America is tumbling into it.

Kirvin, Texas, is but a fringe on the great garment of the United States of America, but despite this fact it is the United States of America right on—nation of which Lincoln said, under God should have a new birth, that the government of the people should not perish from the earth. Lincoln, has long passed into the great beyond, but, the nobility of his words should ever keep the better thought of America sufficiently alive to see to it that these words have not been uttered in vain—That these barbarians be placed under a yoke of respect for liberty and the right to life for all humanity."

The guilt or innocence of the victims have been omitted in this discussion for the reason that neither of them justifies violence—not even in a more milder form. Laws have been instituted to see that justice is done, no less a fact than they embody the statement that no person shall be derived of life or property without due process of law. Shall justice be done in this case—?—Answer, America! the world is awaiting to hear from you.

COLUMBUS O. JOURNAL
DECEMBER 14, 1922

Up to the States.

In the few days which have elapsed since the failure of the Dyer bill in the senate, two lynchings have been reported, one from Florida and one from Texas. Perhaps, if the Dyer bill had been a law in full force, these crimes would not have been prevented, but, if such had been the case, there would be some chance of convicting and punishing the lynchers. Under the theory of states' rights as applied to the lynching evil, they will not be troubled and the possible ounce of prevention for the future is lost. The Houston Post, one of the sane and liberal newspapers of the South, said on this general subject some days ago:

Everyone who believes in states' rights would much prefer to see the states act against the lynchers, if they will act in a prompt and effective way. If not, there will be nothing left but interference from the federal government. We shall see what the states do. If they do not improve the record they have made in recent years, it will take more than parliamentary play in Congress to prevent the passage of a federal anti-lynching bill. It is now up to the states.

That is a perfectly fair statement of the case. The Ohio State Journal is as much opposed as The Houston Post can possibly be to the needless expansion of the federal power over matters naturally falling within the province of the state and local governments. But, if the state and local authorities persistently refuse to function in lynching cases, as they do, both South and North, it seems necessary that the federal authorities, from whom action may be expected, supersede them. We are ready, as The Houston Post seems to be, to modify our theories of government a little when America's good name and the safety of society are at stake.

Lynchings — 1922
Discussions

Negro Press (Pennsylvania)

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FACTS

Christian Recorder

Mr. Pickens, in his address in Philadelphia a few nights ago, gave a number of illustrations of the ignorance of white people concerning colored people; and he might have given many of the ignorance of colored people concerning themselves. A great deal of the misunderstanding and prejudice which we have, is due to ignorance. One of the illustrations Mr. Pickens gave was concerning the attempt to extradite a colored man from Michigan by the sheriff of a certain county in Georgia, who appeared before the authorities to take the Negro back. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People had prepared a booklet showing the lynchings in the United States for a long number of years, and showing how difficult it is for a Negro to get justice in Georgia. Its representative stated that Georgia is the worst state in the country with regard to lynching, and that it is practically impossible for a colored man charged as this man was to have a fair trial. The sheriff was much surprised but met the emergency by stating that while it might be true that there was a large number of lynchings in Georgia, yet there had been no lynching in his county. He said with much confidence that he had been for nearly ten years the sheriff of his county, where this Negro was wanted, and assured the authorities that the Negro would be tried fairly, as no single lynching had ever occurred in his county.

As all parties were far away from Georgia and the sheriff's county, the sheriff evidently thought he was safe, and that no one would contradict him. But the attorney for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People went into further details, and produced facts stating the sheriff's county was one of the worst. He also gave the names and places of all the lynchings in this sheriff's particular county, and the number that had taken place while he was sheriff. Suffice it to say that the sheriff was not only surprised, but greatly humiliated, and asked for "one of those books." He wanted to know "how in the world" the lawyer for the Negro got all of those facts. He was completely humiliated and defeated, and of course did not get his man back to Georgia.

It is a most important work which the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is doing, and if it did nothing more than to get facts, it would warrant the support of all of us. We too often lose our case because we do not have the facts. We imagine we are going to win on general principles, but when it comes down to the facts and the illustration and application of that principle, we are often found wanting.

Logic, theology, philosophy, etc., are all good, but if not supported by facts they are easily upset.

Anti-Lynching Crusaders Perfect Their Organization in Philadelphia

Wilmington Advocate

An enthusiastic group of Anti-Lynching Crusaders met at the Southwest Branch of the Y. W. C. A., Sixteenth street near Christian, on Friday afternoon, October 20, at 4 o'clock, for the purpose of organizing the Key Women of South Philadelphia. The National Organizer, Miss Mary Jackson, of Providence, R. I., acted as temporary chairman. The officers are as follows: Mrs. Margaret Corbett, chairman; Mrs. Sadie Young, vice-chairman; Mrs. L. Waters, treasurer; Mrs. Ida S. Wright, secretary; Mrs. Vergie Lewis, assistant secretary; Mrs. Minnie Brinkley, chairman of Finance Committee; Mrs. Dickerson, chairman of Executive Committee; Mrs. Bayard Smith, chairman of Committee on Buttons; Mrs. Mazie Missell Griffin, chairman of Publicity Committee; Miss Bertha Perry, Miss Penn, Miss Laura Walters, Mrs. H. E. Clemens Mousserone; Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon, chairman of the Speakers' Bureau; Miss Harriett Norris, vice-chairman; Miss Flora Williams, chairman of Junior Crusaders; Miss Florence Caldwell, vice-chairman; Mrs. M. E. Page, chairman of Devotional Work; Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon, chairman of the Northwest Section; Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, director for Pennsylvania. 11-4-22

Mrs. Ida Wright composed a song for the Crusaders, which is to be published and sold, the proceeds of which to be contributed to the Philadelphia fund as her a special donation.

The first gun to be fired by the Philadelphia Crusaders was at Allen A. M. E. Church by Mrs. Sadie Young, key woman. There was a large and appreciative audience. The meeting opened with prayer led by Mrs. Neal. The first speaker was Mrs. Margaret Corbett, followed by music by the choir. Mrs. Lena Trent Gordon spoke of the work that has been accomplished in her section, who have their headquarters at Ri[illegible] avenue and Master street. Mrs. Young next introduced Miss Mary Jackson, the National Organizer, who explained the work that has been accomplished in other cities and incidentally referred to the work being done here, of which she is very much encouraged. The key women have been very carefully selected and there is no reason why Philadelphia should not contribute her full quota toward the number of Crusaders that Pennsylvania is supposed to enroll.

On Friday evening, October 12, Mrs. Scott held a meeting at the Citizens' Club, Fifteenth and Lombard streets. The National Director, Mrs. Mary Talbert and some prominent persons of Philadelphia spoke. Watch for the opening of the South Philadelphia headquarters.

"FIFTEEN YEAR OLDS," IN GEORGIA AND IN JERSEY.

By William Pickens

(For The Associated Negro Press)

A fifteen year old boy was accused of raping a grown woman, old enough, perhaps, to be his mother's mother, in Georgia.

A fifteen year old boy was accused of raping and murdering an eleven year old girl in New Jersey. Pittsburgh American

Perhaps, neither of those boys was guilty of anything. At least neither of them has ever been proven guilty of anything. But it can be seen at a glance which boy was accused of the greater crime. 8-4-22

The difference in treatment accorded these two boys is the difference in the civilization and human culture of the people by whom they were treated. The little Georgia boy, charged with sex attack upon a grown woman, was slowly roasted to death by a mob. The little Jersey boy, charged with sex attacks and murder of a little child, was acquitted by a court of justice.

Both boys maintained their complete innocence. The little Georgia boy, however, was chained to a log and told that if he **did not** confess, he would be burned alive! Of course, the thing to do, under that condition, would be to confess. But the boy had better sense. He knew the mob was lying and that they meant to burn him by all means and simply wanted a "confession" to justify their savagery as much as possible.

He refused to "confess." They burned him until his shin bones were bursting out of the cooked flesh. In great torture the child of fifteen then took them at their word and "confessed" in an effort to stop this hellish pain —as a child of fifty might have done. But after he said what they wanted him to say, they then roasted him more slowly and had a fiendish good time cooking the life out of this helpless child.

In New Jersey the other boy was given his day in court, was thoroughly "grilled," was not proven guilty, and was therefore, presumed to be innocent and was released.

What matters it that one of these boys was black and the other white. And you know which was which.

And yet the present governor of Georgia got "insulted" because some one accused his state of being especially criminal.

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussions.

Negro Press. (Tennessee)

1008

SOUTHERN WHITE BAPTISTS DENOUNCE MOB RULE

Jacksonville, Fla., May 11—"Mob rule and lawlessness was strongly denounced at the closing session of the Southern Baptist convention, (white), here last Tuesday. The report of the Social Welfare Commission declared that every person charged with crime is entitled to a fair trial and that any other procedure is mob rule and if adopted generally ultimately will undermine and overthrow everything we hold dear."

"We cannot too strongly urge upon our pastors and churches the importance of not becoming allied with or giving approval and support to any movement or organization that violates or tends to violate these sacred and fundamental principles," continued the report.

Rev. Dr. J. J. Taylor, Leakesville, N. C., a vice-president of the convention, delivered a strong address against "Mob Rule" and the recent burning of Negroes. Congressman Upshaw of Georgia, and other speakers joined in decrying lawless outbreaks.

No Time for Tu Quoque in Crime

Commercial Appeal 6-15-22

Certainly it was a very poor time for Senator Calder of New York to put into the Congressional Directory a story of a double lynching in Georgia in an effort to show that crime was prevalent in the south. Senator Shields very well answered by asking what about the Herrin massacre.

Memphis Comm. 7-15

The victims of the Georgia mob had been convicted of murder in a regular court. They were taken out [illegible] lynched. Thus one horrible [illegible] was put on the top of anot[illegible] rible crime, but Senator Sh[illegible] remaked that the Herrin, I[illegible] tims had broken no law, [illegible] acting under Mr. Hard[illegible] that every man has a r[illegible] They were shot like dog[illegible] were wounded later we[illegible] Nothing has been done ab[illegible] people in the county are [illegible] with the mob or are afraid [illegible] government is rotten at the top. The Illinois public shrugged its shoulders and said, "One set of foreigners was killed by another set of foreigners." T[illegible] by the way, is false, [illegible]mber of those killed [illegible] and a large number supposed to do the killing were also natives. Even so, murder is murder. To kill an ignorant foreigner, then trust to his lack of friends and his obscurity in order to get by is an act of cowardice that no upstanding and brave American would be guilty of.

After all, we ought to stop the tu quoque attitude as to crime.

The Arkansas Gazette well said the other day we have too much crime in the south, and we have too much crime in the north and we have too much crime in all the states in the union.

It would be well for our senators to consider these matters, not as special representatives of any section, but as trustees for all the people.

LYNCHINGS.

East Tennessee News Knoxville Tenn. 7-22-22

The criticism of The Tuskegee record of the Lynchings of 1922 that it did not include those killed in Labor riots and Strikes, is not well taken since those victims were not in the custody of the law and thereby entitled to the protection of the law. We believe that such killings while deplorable, are not in the same class as those where persons are awaiting trial or already tried, are summarily dealt with by a mob, contrary to law.

Lynchings — 1922.

Discussion.

Texas. (Negro Press.)

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Pride and Lynching.

Dallas Express — July 29, 1922

A few days ago the Senate was the scene of a bitter sectional attack caused by the insertion in the Congressional Record by Senator Calder of New York of a news item concerning the latest double lynching in Georgia. Senator Harris from Georgia and many of his colleagues with him proceeded as soon as the insertion was know for a certainty to berate the New Yorker in no mild way declaring that the Negro in the South was safer than the white man in New York; that New York had more murders in a day than Georgia had lynchings in a year! that Negroes in the South fared better than they did in the North and a whole galaxy of other things too numerous to mention. All of these things intended to convey the impression that "the pot could ill afford to call the kettle black."

The justice of the contentions of the Southern senator does not interest us nearly so much as the fact that his ire was roused by the unfavorable publicity which his state was receiving because of its latest lynching. The Senator has pride in his state. Naturally so. He is willing and ready with all of the ardor of a Southern "gentleman" to defend "her fair name against the mud-slinging of a thousand enemies." But why should his state need defense against such a charge? Why should the almost daily occurrences in it not be read into the Congressional Record?

The answer is easy. Lynching is wrong. The Senator knows that it is wrong but he like thousands of others of his ilk choose to ponder to it at home and defend it abroad rather than stamp it out by vigorous and concerted action and thus render unnecessary such defense in public.

The action of the Georgia Senator was not an indication of real pride. Nor can such actions of our neighbors in various quarters be so considered.

The man or men or organizations which object to the truth about the conditions in the places in which they live would appeal more to the sympathy and consideration of the world were they to seek actively to remove the objectionable condition rather than to allow it to continue and seek to defend its existence.

We do not believe that any altruistic motives prompted the New York Senator to read this lynching account into the Record. We believe rather that he had been led by recent utterances of the Negro Republicans of New York to feel that his actions in their behalf had not been as definite and decisive as they had hoped for. They let it be understood that they were not favorably impressed with his attitude on the Dyer Bill and that they were not heartily in favor of again casting their ballots for him in the next election.

The desire for 190,000 New York Negro votes caused the whole affair. But it seems to us that since such occasions arise very frequently, the representatives of the Southern States in their desire to keep unsullied the record of their sections would strive to stop lynchings, thus removing the cause of the criticisms which they so hotly resent.

Brutality is rampant in Southern States. First, Texas and then Georgia breaks into the lead in roasting and burning human beings accused of crime. Where the odor of burning human flesh seems forever to fill the air; where men are chained to stakes and slowly done to death by every conceivable form of torture; where men, women and children search the ashes of these human bonfires for gruesome relics to keep in memory of the "great occasion;" where even pregnant women fail to escape the same fates as are meted out to their mates, it seems that somehow some man or men or movements would arise to cause a realization of the fact that they are due criticism; are due censure.

Were we who live in the South to read, of another section of the world, the same gruesome facts that our papers almost daily herald to the world we would stand aghast and declare that section peopled by the scum of the earth and consider its existence a reproach to civilization.

Such consideration would not be unmerited. Such consideration of us, even though we now profess not to realize it is well merited.

We with others who live in the South deplore the condition but we feel that those who would really defend their section had best start deeper than they now do. The best method of stopping the shameful publicity which the South now receives is in stopping the mob spirit which for so long has been allowed to operate unrestricted.

TEXAS GRAND JURY RAPS MOB THAT BURNED THOMAS

9-22-22

Chicago

Waco, Tex., Sept. 22.—The September grand jury sitting here took occasion to condemn the action of a mob that defiled the body of Jesse Thomas, alleged murderer of Harrell Bolton (white).

Defender

Bolton was killed while escorting a woman who was said to have been attacked after the white man's death. Thomas was identified by the woman as her assailant. Following this information the woman's father killed Thomas, whose body was removed to an undertaking establishment. A mob, enraged by failure to lynch Thomas, took the body, set fire to it in the public square and then dragged it, partially burned, through the streets.

The grand jury was especially charged to investigate the killing of Bolton, but not enough evidence was adduced to justify an indictment. The report read in part as follows: "In connection with the slaying of Bolton the consensus of opinion of the grand jury is that Bolton came to his death at the hands of a Negro 'answering the description' of Jesse Thomas. However, there has been considerable testimony presented to the grand jury that would leave doubt as to the guilt of Thomas.

"In connection with the killing of Jesse Thomas we wish to condemn the action of the mob in dragging his body through the streets of Waco and afterwards burning the same, and urge all law-abiding citizens to uphold the law at all times."

A LYNCHING!

New York Age.

(By JULIETTE V. HARRING).

The following remarkable, though gruesome and barbarous, story, written by a Southern white woman, a native of Virginia, was published in the "Daily Telegraph," Macon, Ga., on September 14, 1922).

10-7-22

As the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is awaiting final action by the Senate, the following account of a typical Southern lynching by an eye-witness may be of interest. I could name the State, but I will spare them that.

It was while he sat in his room by his lamp looking over his notes and jotting down some ideas which wre still fresh in his mind, that he suddenly became conscious of that sense of alarm which is always aroused by the sound of hurrying footsteps in the silence of the night. He stopped writing and looked at his watch. It was after eleven. He listened, straining every nerve to hear above the tumult of his quickening pulse. He caught the murmur of voices, then the gallop of a horse, then of another and another. He was now thoroughly alarmed. After a moment he put out the light, softly opened the window-blind, and cautiously peeped out. He saw men moving in one direction, and from the mutterings he vaguely caught the rumor that some terrible crime had been committed—murder! rape! He put on his coat and hat; it was impossible to remain in the house under such tense excitement. His nerves would not have stood it. He went out, and, following the drift, reached the railroad station.

There was gathered a crowd of men; all white; others were steadily arriving, seemingly from all the surrounding country. How did the news spread so quickly? He watched these men moving under the yellow glare of the lamps about the station, stern, comparatively silent, all of them armed, some of them in boots and spurs; fierce, determined men. He had come to know the type well—blond, tall and lean, with ragged muscles and beard, and glittering gray eyes. At the suggestion of daylight they began to disperse in groups, going in several directions. There was no extra noise or excitement, no loud talking, only swift, sharp words of command given by those who seemed to be accepted as leaders by mutual understanding. In fact, the impression made upon this man was that everything was being done in quite an orderly manner. In spite of so many leaving, the crowd around the station continued to grow; at sunrise there were a great many women and children. By this time he also noticed some colored people; a few seemed to be going about their customary tasks; several were standing on the outskirts of the crowd, but the gathering of Negroes usually seen in such towns was missing.

Before noon, they brought him in. Two horsemen rode abreast; between them, half dragged, the poor wretch made his way through the dust. His hands were tied behind him, and ropes around his body were fastened to the saddle horn of his double guard. The men who at midnight had been stern and silent were now yelling themselves hoarse. A space was quickly cleared in the crowd, and a rope placed about his neck, when from some one cam the suggestion, "Burn him," It ran like an electric current. Have you ever witnessed the transformation of human beings into savage beasts? Nothing can be more terrible. A railroad tie was sunk into the ground, the rope was removed and a chain brought and securely coiled around the victim and the stake. There he stood, a man only in form and stature, every sign of degeneracy stamped upon his countenance. His eyes were dull and vacant, no indication of a single ray of thought in his sluggish brain. Evidently the realization of his fearful fate had robbed him of whatever reasoning power he had ever possessed. He was too stunned and stupefied even to tremble.

Fuel was brought from everywhere, oil, the torch; the flames crouched for an instant as though to gather strength, then leaped up as high as their victim's head. He squirmed, he writhed, strained at his chains, then gave out cries and groans that the man who saw it says he shall always hear. The cries and groans were choked by the fire and smoke; but his eyes, bulging from their sockets, rolled from side to side, appealing in vain for help. Some of the crowd yelled and cheered and cried, "You are burning him too fast," others seemed appalled at what they had done, and there were a few who turned away, sickened at the sigth. The horrified eye-witness was fixed to the post where he stood, powerless to turn his eyes away from what he did not want to see. Before he could make himself believe what was really happening, he was looking at a scorched post, a smoldering fire, black-

ned bones, charred fragments sifting down through coils of chain, and the smell of burnt flesh—human flesh—was in his nostrils.

He walked a short distance away, and sat down in order to clear his dazed mind. When he decided to get up and go back to his room, he found he could hardly stand on his feet. He was as weak as a man who had lost blood. A wave of humiliation and shame swept over him; shame for his country, that the great example of democracy to the world, should be the only civilized, if not the only State on earth, where a human being could be burned alive and with impunity be treated worse than animals.

As a Southern woman from the State of Virginia, I am convinced that the real South, the upright, intelligent people, regret these outrages, but how long will the South remain silent? How long will the South endure the limits which are placed on free speech? How long will they cower and tremble under "Southern opinion?"

"They are slaves who fear to speak
For the Friendless and the weak;
They are slaves who fear to be
In the right with two or three."

We cry out in righteous indignation when we learn of the atrocities practiced upon the Armenians by the Turks, and on the Jews by the Russians; the cry for relief from suffering beyond our shores is heard and ever resuonded to by generous America.

The thousands of spires on churches of every denomination, running high into the heavens, bear testimony that this is a Christian nation, or at least purports to be, and yet, actual records tell us that within the last thirty years we have lynched 3,436 human beings—3,436 blots of shame on the United States. Most of these lynchings occurred in the so-called Solid South, bringing disgrace upon the entire Southern people, and condemnation from God and man. I love the South with every fibre of my being and it is for this reason that I am appealing to her people. The Southern people are admired everywhere for their sterling qualities; and is it not possible for them to band together and eradicate this cruel custom?

I realize that the details of this ghastly horror are revolting, but I recite them that they may be brought home to you and that the people of this country may rouse themselves and demand justice. I could go on and tell you of case after case; I could tell you of a Negro being burned alive, while women with babies in their arms made themselves comfortable and looked on without shame. In another case the victim was tortured for three and one-half hours, and the last sign of life did not disappear until a full half hour later. Red-hot pokers were used to bore out the Negro's eyes; hot irons dug gaping wounds in his back and sides, killing him inch by inch.

This abomination is spreading by leaps and bounds and must be stamped out. Lawlessness begets lawlessness; tolerated and unrestrained, lawlessness invariably grows. The essence of lynching is not the satisfaction of the law, but revenge, and revenge is an endless chain.

COMPARES AMERICAN LYNCHERS TO TURKS

10/11/22

Declaring that Turkish atrocities are no worse than excesses committed in America, James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, addressed the Law Enforcement Conference, October 3rd to 6th, under the auspices of the Board of Temperance, Prohibition and Public Morals of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Nashville, Tenn. New York

"In horror there is nothing to choose between the worst excesses attributed to the Turk and the torture of the victims of lynching mobs in America," said Mr. Johnson. "Have not 83 women been lynched in the Christian United States between the years 1889 and 1921? Have not 3,483 known lynchings taken place in our country from 1889 to January 1, 1922? And what is the alleged excuse for these horrors? It is that the Negro is a rapist. Certainly that charge is not justified against the 83 women who were murdered by mobs."

Houston Post 12/1/22

THE LAW AND THE MOB.

Knoxville Sentinel and Tribune.

The Wesleyan Christian Advocate, published at Atlanta, takes a strong we might say a civilized, christian stand against mobs. The taking of a human life except in the case of one who has been tried in the courts is murder, whether committed by an individual or by a mob.

The paper referred to, a licensed spokesman for Methodism in Georgia makes the incontrovertible point that "the white race has complete control of the machinery of the courts and the government" and that "only a small minority of Georgia citizens participate and sympathize with lynching."

That is the truth beyond the possibility of doubt; but it puts Georgia and other States where such outrages are allowed and committed, in the attitude of a self-respecting majority, being ruled by a savage, bloodthirsty, and may be added, cowardly minority.

Commenting upon what was said in the church paper mentioned the Atlanta Constitution makes this commendable comment:

"All right-thinking, public-spirited and patriotic men and women, irrespective of religious affiliations or belief, will commend this expression of the truth; and the good people of Georgia—the first on the list of 'lynching States'—may well read a warning in the current agitation in congress in behalf of a federal anti-lynching law.

Georgia can put an end to lynching and to mob violence if it will but if it does not, intervention by the federal government to that purpose is inevitable!

If mob law prevails, if such defiance of humanity can not be ended, let us cease boasting of American civilization. Lynching is the very ultimate of savagery. Let the laws be enforced. Let the lynchers go to the gallows or to the electric chair. They have no right to live.

SAN ANTONIO TEXAS EXPRESS
SEPTEMBER 14, 1922

ALL WITHIN A WEEK

September 7, in Newton, Texas: A mob takes one Johnson, a negro, from the Newton County jail, carries him into the country, hangs him to a tree and riddles his body with bullets. The negro was under death-sentence for murdering a white man.

September 12, in Waco, Texas: The McLennan County grand jury reports to District Judge Monroe: "In connection with the Bolton murder case, the concensus of the grand jury is that Bolton came to his death at the hands of a negro answering the description of Jesse Thomas. However, there has been considerable testimony presented to the grand jury that would leave doubt as to the guilt of Jesse Thomas. In connection with the killing of Jesse Thomas, we wish to condemn the action of the mob in dragging his body through the streets of Waco and afterwards burning the same; and urge all law-abiding citizens to uphold the law at all times."

September 12, in New Braunfels, Texas: "There are some crimes that, Dyer Bill or no Dyer Bill, the men who respect the womanhood of the South are not going to permit", a speaker told the Fourteenth Congressional District convention.

(There was no mention of the fact that crimes other than the "some crimes" referred to, constitute the "causes" of about 70 per cent of the lynch-murders, as an annual average).

THE LEAVEN AT WORK.

Atlanta

The fact that grand jury indictments have recently been returned against alleged members of lynching mobs in several Georgia counties, even though no convictions have followed, is appropriately interpreted by Judge Andrew J. Cobb, of Athens, in a communication published elsewhere upon this page, as constituting a significant "ray of hope" foreshadowing the end of mob law in this state. 9/28/22

Judge Cobb sees in this activity an indication that "grand jurors are awakening to a sense of duty;" that "murder by a number commonly called a mob is being recognized by grand jurors as murder, which it is;" and that "in due time trial jurors will awaken and convict when the evidence authorizes."

The judges of Georgia are rendering good service to that end.

A typical case in point was the splendid charge delivered the other day by Judge Blanton Fortson upon the convening of a grand jury in Barrow county.

After calling attention to the series of instances of mob brutality that have occurred recently in Barrow county, Judge Fortson expressed the opinion that those crimes "have been carried out as a part of some kind of plan or scheme of terrorism."

Conditions, he declared, have developed almost to the point of constituting a "reign of terror" in Barrow county.

"Who is doing this?" he asked the grand jury—

"Is it done by an organized band who have deliberately sought to create a reign of terror, or was it started by men with more or less worthy objects, who undertook to arrogate to themselves the functions of government and have allowed the situation to get beyond their control? Is it being done by men who still believe they can usurp the functions of the courts?"

Then he truthfully declared that—

"If it is done by men obsessed with the idea that they can serenely arrogate to themselves the administration of punishment, they are woefully lacking in the knowledge of history or understanding of human nature."

"The whole trouble," he told the jury, "is that the good citizen, the law-abiding citizen, has allowed the unthinking and vicious to commit these crimes too long, and **from lynching negroes for the one gross crime we have taken to lynching them for every other crime, or for no crime at all, and we are now mobbing white men!"**

"In God's name," he pleaded, **"isn't it time to call a halt?"**

"Our laws are all right," he declared—"I think they are; but if they are not, we can amend them. Aren't our juries all right? **If not, the remedy is in your hands!"**

Continuing, Judge Fortson said:

"We, gentlemen, you and I and the traverse jurors, as well, **cannot shirk our responsibility.** If we do so, generations yet unborn, if they remember us at all, will look upon us with scorn. The time for temporizing is passed. **The men who are responsible for these crimes must be punished.** Barrow county must be purged of them, and at last, gentlemen, the initiative, the inherent responsibility, rests upon you to see that the perpetrators of these crimes are brought to the bar of justice. It is unnecessary for me to tell you that the vast majority of the people of Barrow county are upright and law-abiding, and I resent no less than you, any general indictment of the people of your county because of the acts of this lawless minority.

"It is unnecessary for me to tell you that the vast majority of your people have in their hearts condemned these acts with all the fervor of their righteous indignation. It is also unnecessary for me to remind you that they are confidently looking for you to show, in no uncertain and half-hearted way, that **murder and anarchy cannot go unpunished.**

"Get to the bottom of it, spare no time, no effort, no expense, gentlemen. Sift it thoroughly, fearlessly and impartially. Place the responsibility where it should be placed, and let no guilty man escape. For you have been challenged, gentlemen. Your institutions, constituted authority, the law itself, every law-abiding and God-fearing citizen of your county, has been challenged. You are to accept that challenge and to show to the world that no man, or set of men in Barrow county, is above the law."

This is typical of the sentiment that has characterized the charges delivered by Georgia judges in numerous instances in the recent past; and the results are beginning to be manifested in the finding of bills of indictment.

It will not be long, let us hope, until the consciences of trial jurors will become aroused by a similar sense of duty and of public decency, and convictions will follow indictments.

The leaven is at work in Georgia!

The power of public sentiment is manifesting itself on the side of righteousness, and of law and order.

No man in Georgia has done more toward bringing about this changed condition of the public mind than Andrew J. Cobb.

Negro Press. (Texas.)

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Lynchings — 1922.
Discussions.

IF WE CONTINUE TO BURN NEGROES.

Dallas Express — 6/17/22

The burning of human beings "is not only an expression of outraged public mortality," says George Bernard Shaw. He declares it is "also a sport for which a taste can be acquired much more easily and rapidly than a taste for coursing hares, just as a taste for drink can be acquired from brandy and cocktails more easily and rapidly than from beer or sauterne.

Lynching mobs begin with Negro ravishers of murderers, says Mr. Shaw, but they may soon go on to any sort of offender, provided he is black. As a white man will burn as amusingly as a black one, he sees the removal of the color line as the next step.

A government which cannot restrain a mob from taking the law into its own hands is no government at all. Mr. Shaw says "If Landru can go to his guillotine unmolested in France, and his British prototype who drowned all his wives in their baths can be peaceably hanged in England," he says, "Texas can protect its criminals by simply bringing its civilization up to the French and British level."

Reports from the South support Mr. Shaw in his claim that lynching is partly a sport.

People must be thinking of something besides law and order when they burn a Negro boy over a slow fire, and when men struggle to get parts of the remains of a burned Negro man as souvenirs. If this sort of thing goes on unchecked, it is easy to believe that white men may become victims as well as Colored.

But the trouble starts with the Negroes, and Mr. Shaw makes too easy a problem of it when he makes comparisons with Landru and the British wife-murderer. There is no reason to think that an American "Bluebeard" could not be sent to his death without interference by the mob.

It is also easy for us in the North to say that lynching must stop. We might not do any better ourselves under the same conditions as exist in the South. But that does not prevent us from seeing the truth. We hear a about state rights, but if the states don't have the right to keep Negroes in slavery, how can they have the right to lynch them and burn them?

It is said by opponents of federal action that to try to get national action against lynching would make necessary the solution of the whole Negro problem. This sounds something like saying a fire in a block ought not to be put out for fear the entire city might be saved.

—Worcester Telegram.

FOR REAL WHITE SUPREMACY.

Dallas Express — 6/17/22

In area, in population, in natural resources, in everything a bountiful Providence can furnish, Texas is a great state.

In poise, in respect for law, in that attitude of mind which makes for orderly government, established justice and the triumph of Christian civilization, Texas has room for improvement.

During the last year this state has become a stamping ground for the mask and mob.

First there were a few whippings, and warnings and other illicit acts of violence, then hangings, then burnings, and lastly the dragging of a roasted corpse through the streets of a great city, while raving men, as is reported, fought to slice souvenirs from the putrid thing.

We have waited for the voice of protest, but in vain. We have waited for what we know to be a shocked and disapproving majority to make itself heard, but without result. One business man takes the trouble to let us know he dissents. All the rest is a vast silence.

Not another state in the Union, and, outside of Russia perhaps, not another equal area in the whole civilized world, can show as black a record in the month of May as can Texas.

Where is the alibi?

We only mock the struggles and achievements of our forebears to call it a manifestation of white supremacy.

It was white supremacy that insisted on the Bill of Rights, that procured trial by jury, that demanded the defendant be given the benefit of a doubt, that insisted on conviction and punishment only after positive proof of guilt.

It was white supremacy that evolved a government of law, and that proclaimed the necessity of obedience to constituted authority.

It was white supremacy that drew the line between liberty and license, that wrote the Declaration of Independence, that framed the constitution of the United States that undertook to stamp out class, creed to build on the white man's foundation, to pursue the white man's faith; nit to revert to the floundering, futile excesses of barbarism.

Are we to stand before the world confessing that our courts have broken down, that we have no power to protect life and property, save by means that the bushmen of Australia know?

Are we to plead that, despite six thousand years of human experience and progress, we know no other way to suppress crime than by the crudest and most primitive weapons?

Are we to acknowledge that of all the states and nations we alone are helpless to make regulations for the conduct of society and enforce them according to modern and approved methods?

Are we to admit that whenever confronted with a peculiarly heinous offense we can do nothing but lose our heads, turn savage and forget our day, our generation, our ancestry and our moral heritage?

It is not crime that this monster of unrestrained passion and prejudice serves to repress so much as the fundamental idea of government itself. It is not the victims that really suffer, but that fabric of peace and protection which we call the state.

A violent death here and there counts for little. We are all mortal, and must die. Millions have been tortured and succumbed. There is nothing for us to discover in the way of exquisite pain. Previous ages have exhausted that field, but to what purpose?

White civilization has long since proclaimed that the most exact justice obtainable is the most effective, even though it takes longer and tries the patience.

White civilization has long since concluded that, though impulsive vengeance may appear to offer temporary relief, and though it may be excusable from an in individual or local point of view, society finds dependable protection only in cool-headed, impartial judgment.

White civilization is not predicated on what should be done to retaliate against the devilishness of ignorance, but on what must be done to preserve the constructive power of intelligence.

Even putting it on that narrow basis of race discipline for which its apologists contend, mob rule, as we have come to know it, is eating at the very bowels of white civilization in this state.

What it may visit on a black man here and there is as nothing compared to what it is sure to visit on the general attitude of white men toward the law, the government and those standards of regulated justice which have come down to us through the centuries of hard-fought progress.

Disrespect for the law—and it is disrespect to supersede the law, no matter on what ground—is a cancer in the bosom of society. Once incubated, no man may predict where it will end.

We are not dealing with something that can be invoked and discarded at will, but with a gnawing, insidious habit.

There can be no compromise between the mob and constituted authority. The one represents anarchy, albeit in an incipient form; the other,

(3)

all that we have learned by way of maintaining peace and order along systematic lines.

We can not proceed on the theory of what should be done to frighten inferior beings, but on the hypothesis of what must be done to protect and preserve the ways of superior conceptions.

The law, the state and Christian civilization can not go back to physical impulses. Then very existence is dependent on a repression of these, on faith in reason, patience and self-restrain.

White Christian civilization is not an easy thing to maintain. If it had been, it would not have had to wait for the seven ancient monarchies to fall before being able to raise its head.

White Christian civilization is not the simple matter of doing what our emotions suggest, especially under strain.

White Christian civilization is enacting of the individual. It calls for self-control, for poise, for the putting aside of personal considerations, but isn't it worth the price? Considering all that it has accomplished for the betterment of mankind, oughtn't we to play our part in upholding it?

In demanding white supremacy, let us be sure that it is the substance, not the shadow, that we have in mind. —Houston Chronicle.

STATES AND THEIR LYNCHING.

Dallas Express 6/21/24

Many of the states are rejoicing through the medium of the press, at the failure of the Dyer Bill. It is their contention that its failure is a vindication of the rights of states to govern themselves.

We do not doubt but that the Dyer Bill has failed, for the recent speech of Senator Borah, seemingly aimed at it, was enough to finish the demolition of its chances of passags.

But the death of the Dyer Bill should be welcomed by states only because it gives to them the opportunity to prove their worth to the right to govern their own affairs—lynching in particular. The strength of the opposition to the Dyer Bill, at least as Southern and lynching states were concerned, was centered; not in the defense of lynching, with one accord they deplored it, but in the invasion of their rights as sttates.

It is not the duty of such states now without delay to make definite steps toward the punishment of mob members and lynching parties by laws passed by their own legislatures? It is a duty which they owe to civilization.

It is true that there would never have been any need for appeal to Federal aid in curbing lynching had the states themselves not shown such signal sloth in its control.

Now that public opinion has been aroused to the point of demanding that these outrages, travesties upon American civilization be stopped they should rise to the occasion without delay.

The question of unconstitutionality would not hinder them.

Their rights in the making of their own laws could not be questioned.

They themselves appear to admit that they are not in accord with the spirit of lynching.

There is nothing to hinder their action. To delay would be to confess that their protestations were not genuine. And to confess this would be proof positive of their approval of mobs and the action of their members. People with tendencies of that sort have never long existed as nations. History tells us that their bestial instincts finally conquered them and they dethroned their own laws and destroyed their own governments.

American states and American people are laying themselves liable to the same fate by temporizing with the minorities of their civic groups who dethrone law with impunity by lynchings.

It is to be hoped that the states may speedily rise and do their duty by their lynchers, certainly in the light of the quality of their opposition to the Dyer Bill speedy action is to be expected, and, were this not so, they ought to feel compelled to action by their duty to protect the civilization which lynching so potently threatens.

EUROPEAN PRESS TELLS HOW MOBOCRACY RULES UNITED STATES; DISCUSSES DOMESTIC DISORDERS

Special to The Informer. 6/27/24 Houston Informer

New York City.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has announced receipt of clippings from a large number of Belgian, French and Czecho-Slovakian newspapers, in which are printed accounts of lynchings in America. The number includes such widely known papers as L' Independence Belge of Brussels, L'Echo du Soir, Le Neptune of Antwerp, Noro-din Lisky and Tribune of Czecho-Slovakia and many others.

The accounts read:

> "The movement against lynching is spreading and the recent murder of three Negroes by an excited mob in Texas has called public attention to this matter in a very decided manner. A memorial bearing the signatures of three hundred American citizens demanding a vote on the proposed law against lynching has just been addressed to the senate. Among the signatories are governors of states, archbishops and clergymen, former diplomats, professors and the mayors of New York, Boston, Chicago, Baltimore and Pittsburgh."
>
> "Since 1889, 3443 lynchings have taken place in the United States; women to the number of 64 have been lynching victims. Last year 64 persons were lynched, four of the victims being burned at the stake."

The memorial referred to is the one which was prepared by the N. A. A. C. P. and to which were secured the signatures of 24 governors, 38 mayors of large cities, two ex-attorney generals of the United States, three archbishops, leading churchmen, state supreme court justices, college presidents, well-known newspaper and magazine editors and many other prominent citizens in all walks of life. The memorial asked prompt enactment of the Dyer anti-lynching bill and was presented to the senate at the request of the association by Senator Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, republican leader of the senate, on May 6.

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussions.

Negro Press. (Texas)

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LYNCHING LEAGUE BREAKS NEW RECORD!

Houston Informer 6/17/22

Call it what you will or may and assign whatever reason or motive you may desire, the fact still remains that America is daily proving to the world that this country is the greatest mobocratic and hellocratic republic in the world, and that those in authority are satisfied, yea delighted, with the trend of events and the outbursts and demonstrations of Hunnish kultur, savagery and barbarism.

Negro Press (Texas)

The lynching league seems to be in mid-season form and from present indications it looks like Texas will win the pennant, with Georgia finishing in second place. Of course, Mississippi is always a dark horse and while her players are slow rounding into form this season, it will not surprise the followers of this greatest American pastime to see "Ole Miss" become formidable and make it a three-cornered race for the greatest honor that can be conferred upon a Southern American state.

At present, in all departments of this great American game the Lone Star State is leading, having taken a batting, fielding and base-running spurt during May that threatens to prove a handicap to the other clubs of the lynching league.

In Texas it does not matter if the alleged culprit is dead and in the morgue, the club's average must be boosted and thus we witness the grand and noble spectacle of a mob raiding an undertaking establishment, taking out a corpse, burning it in the public square and then dragging the remnants all over the city, while several took toes and fingers and other parts of the body for souvenirs.

Truly the old Texas club of the lynching league is batting and fielding around 1.000, while in base running and base stealing her average is around .999. This is a record that the other clubs of the circuit will have a job trying to equal, to say nothing of surpassing, for the club owners, directors, managers, captain and players say they will cop the gonfalon if they have to lynch every colored man in Texas, and perhaps a few white ones if the situation warrants it.

The lynching league is on such a batting rampage that poor Babe Ruth and all the four-ply swatters of the erstwhile "big show" (lynching league is "big show" nowadays) are made to look like rookies and pikers; while the fielding of the lynchocrats has caused Rogers Hornsby, Everett Scott, "Stuffy" McInnis, "Rabbit" Maranville and other great defensive ball players to seek new fields for their laurels.

There is one odd and strange thing about the lynching league and that is that instead of employing one, two, three or four umpires, all the participants are umpires and they call and render decisions to suit themselves, which play an important part in helping them to capture every contest in which they engage.

The playing of the teams in the lynching league is quite remarkable, especially when it is borne in mind that the players consist of men, women and children and unborn babes, and that instead of nine players the smallest club in the mobocratic loop has at least 300 or 400 members, who "strut their stuff" unceremoniously, peremptorily and promiscuously.

The age of their victims or the alleged crime has nothing to do towards lessening their attack, for if the accused has a dark skin that is prima facie evidence that he or she is guilty and immediately the great American game is on!

Many times an innocent man or woman falls a victim to the lynching league's furious and heathenish offensive, but the mobocratic players comfort and console themselves in the fact that they will keep on lynching and walloping "niggers" until they get the right one.

The players of the mob-law circuit do not perform for money neither are they high-priced artists; yet they get and keep their league standing in the daily newspapers in a manner that is startling beyond description.

It seems that the main object of the lynching league is to hasten on federal legislation to bring mob-violence under the pale of the national government, and yet the politicians at Washington are so busy trying to see which way the political winds are blowing that they are finding excuses and alibis of all sorts to forestall and block any such protective legislation.

No sane and sensible man will believe for a moment that all these reported charges of rape and attempted criminal assault upon womanhood are true or have the least semblance of truth; yet the lynching league is endeavoring to show to the world that the colored race is vicious, criminal, bestial and rapists by nature.

Moral cowardice on one hand and the lack of racial solidarity on the other can be considered as contributing factors to the great impetus given the lynching league in this country, and unless some stern and stiff steps are taken to break up this organization, America is going to wake up some morning and discover that she is a "has been" republic.

It appears that both races have forgotten God; or that the white man has forgotten God and the black man has forgotten his brother, both being practically the same thing.

America cannot long survive at her present pace and gait, for mob-rule is getting a firmer hold upon the American people every day and when the majority of the citizens become inoculated with this virus it will be a sad and sorrowful day for Sister Columbia.

Do the authorities mean to tell us that they are solely and wholly powerless and impotent to break up the lynching league?

Or, since the majority of the victims are colored, are they unconcerned and not the least interested in overthrowing the court of Judge Lynch?

If the national government can spend millions and billions to

catch and punish a few bootleggers, home-brewers and hoo[illegible] consumers, why can not this same government spend just a little money and time to insure protection to all its citizens?

Are those in authority blind or are they accomplices in such crimes willingly and knowingly?

Have they not sufficient insight and sense to know that as long as mob-law reigns in this or any other country, the life of no citizen is safe, be he high or low, rich or poor, black or white?

Can a fountain send forth both bitter and sweet water at the same time, from the same source?

Can mobocracy and democracy both thrive and survive in the same commonwealth? Do they both work towards the same end or are they diametrically opposed and antagonistic to each other?

As American citizens, it is not expected of the colored citizens to cause the disintegration of the lynching league by official authority, for we are not in power; but we can do much to make it less possible and give these lynchocrats less pretext and excuse for pulling off such heathenish and hellish horrors by obeying the law and all working together for the cause of our race and common country, submitting ourselves both to divine and earthly leadership, the latter selected by our group and not one superimposed by another race.

If we cannot learn any lessons for our benefit and betterment from such wholesale outrages, we are simply entrenching the lynching league and potentially aiding in fattening its fielding, batting, base running and base stealing averages.

There is much strength and power in unity, team-work, co-operation, for "united we stand, divided we fall."

May the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob help us to see the signs of the times, read them and profit thereby, is our fervent prayer. Amen!

CRIMES, COLOR AND PUBLICITY.

Reflection Informer

The action of the majority of the Southern daily newspapers in reporting alleged crimes surpasses all understanding and they are just about as consistent as the April weather is stable. 7-8-22

If the alleged perpetrator of a crime happens to be a member of the colored race, the alleged offense is given all the possible publicity, especially if the victim is so unfortunate or fortunate as to be a member of the other race.

But if the alleged criminal is identified with the white race and his victim is a member of the colored race, not only is the news story characterized by brevity and generally inserted in an inconspicuous place, but it is so worded and constructed as to place the blame on the victim rather than upon the criminal, ingeniously striving to show that the black man was responsible for his own undoing at the hands of the white criminal.

Occasionally some crime is committed where such propaganda can not be successfully employed and such incidents are generally reported like the shortest verse in the Bible.

A few nights ago three white men robbed several colored people at the point of revolvers on the Westheimer Road and then committed criminal assault upon some colored women, forcing them to submit to the heinous and brutal [illegible].

The usual box-car headings were not in evidence either in the local daily newspapers or any similar publications in the state or South, but if the perpetrators had been colored and the victims white, every daily paper in Houston, Texas, and the South would have played up the alleged offense in glaring headlines and even endeavored to incite mob-violence by magnifying and exaggerating the alleged offense.

Several months ago a colored girl, still in her 'teens, was brutally and viciously outraged by a white man, who followed her from Harrisburg where she worked, and the only mention made of the crime appeared in The Informer, and because this paper dared expose and make public the offense, the editor was accused of trying to incite a race riot.

No arrest has ever been made and all the "investigation" made in the barbaric and brutal crime amounted to nil, and to this good day not one word has appeared in the daily newspapers regarding this outrage.

We might as well be frank and candid enough to admit that had the case been reversed the daily papers would have been full of sensational articles and ere now some colored man or boy would have been apprehended and perhaps convicted and executed, and no race man would have been asked to "investigate" the alleged crime like was done in the colored girl's case.

A few days ago a very unusual and novel stunt was staged in Oklahoma by a colored man under arrest, according to the daily newspapers. After the officer had handcuffed the colored man, it is alleged that the race man snatched the officer's gat from the holster and inflicted a mortal wound upon said officer and then made his escape and at last reports had eluded and escaped the posse (mob). "Ain't that goin' some?"

A glance at the daily papers will reveal many of these "Nick Carter" incidents and yet the gullible public, and particularly our people, will swallow such fabrications and myths just like it was the truth and within the realm of the possible.

The Informer is not waging a fight on the daily papers as such, but merely desires to call the public's attention to the unethical and unfair methods and means resorted to in their efforts to sell their papers at our race's expense.

Then, too, our people encourage such insidious, infernal and injurious propaganda by subscribing for and supporting these sheets (in preference to race journals) that delight in poking fun at, ridiculing and showing up our race as criminals and ante-bellum "darkies."

These daily publications give absolutely no space to the good deeds of the race nor make any mention of its worthy accomplishments, even when such matter is furnished them; but just let some crime be committed and placed at the door of a black man and these "enterprising" papers will so publish the crime that some colored man is found guilty and convicted even before his apprehension.

Furthermore, the daily newspapers do more to encourage lynch law than all other agencies combined, for whenever an alleged offense is charged to some colored man, the daily papers generally

RACE WILL LEARN HOW TO RESENT SUCH INSULTS AND STOP THE PRACTICE OF GIVING STRENGTH TO THE HAND THAT CONTINUALLY SLAPS US IN THE FACE!

Other races have long since learned and put into execution this great lesson and yet we are still sitting around complaining, belly-aching and indulging in lamentations about our "sad lot," when we have the inherent though latent ability and power to alter our status for better and to change many of the existing conditions that are now holding us captives and slaves.

Let us refrain from committing crimes and doing any overt act that will afford our enemies a chance to gloat, exult and picture us to the world as low, base, vicious and criminal.

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prit is caught a lynching is feared," etc., which is nothing more than a suggestion and the mob, having been forewarned, forearms and many innocent black men are thus treated to an over-dose of America's famous mobocratic concoction.

A crime is a crime and neither the color of the skin nor texture of the hair has anything to do with it and the newspaper that wilfully and maliciously enlarges and plays up crimes from a prejudicial viewpoint is not only an enemy to society, but an ever-present menace.

Many other insults and discourtesies are shown our race like through the columns of the daily newspapers and we only grin like a possum and pass it off lightly.

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Lynchings - 1922
Discussions
Neosho Press (Texas)

SHALL LAW AND ORDER PREVAIL?

Houston Dy Informer
1/21/22

Governor Pat Neff of Texas has designated Monday, January 23, as the day for launching an educational campaign in the state for observance of the law and law enforcement.

He has issued an official proclamation calling upon ministers, judges, teachers, speakers and editors to stress obedience to the law and respect for constituted authority.

If the deplorable and rotten conditions at Mexia, where martial law has been declared by the governor, actuated and influenced the chief magistrate of the state to decide upon this educational campaign, then there is much truth in the old adage that "it is an ill wind that blows nobody good."

In the days when this commonwealth was a republic and sovereign within itself, its domain was a rendezvous for law-breakers and criminal element from other states, and thus in frontier days Texas began to establish an unenviable reputation and record as a lawless and disorderly empire.

To this present day this reputation and record of lawlessness and defiance of law and order are being devoutly and zealously guarded, preserved and perpetuated by the devotees and adherents of crime, both individually and collectively.

Not being satisfied with the individual criminals, we now have organized bands of mobbists and anarchists terrorizing the various communities and hurling defiance in the face of the written laws of the state.

Our children are being imbued and inculcated with the idea that our statutes are simply so many words; that they are a joke and that our written laws are not to be observed nor enforced.

Men laugh and mock at our laws; they jeer, jest and poke fun at our courts; they flout defiance in the face of the constitution and its bill of rights, and by their wanton and premeditated acts of lawlessness, confusion and disorder, these criminals challenge the very existence of the state.

A campaign for law and order is both timely and badly needed but what this state really needs is officers to rigidly and vigorously enforce and prosecute the law and execute its mandates upon all violators and infractors without regard to class, creed or color.

If there is widespread disrespect for law and order (and none can be found so stupid and uninformed as to gainsay that such a menace does exist in the Lone Star State), it is due principally to the non-enforcement of the law by public officials, who lack courage, stamina, backbone, grit, nerve and determination to uphold the law at any hazard or cost and to punish all criminals, whether masked or unmasked.

When law and order become obsolete and the state is unable to vouchsafe to its citizens protection, democracy ceases to function and in its stead despotism and anarchy become the ruling and reigning dynasty; while human life and physical property are ready subjects for wanton destruction and ruthless demolition.

The law is supposed to protect the weak; to throw bulwarks around the home; to make safe the person and property of every citizen and inflict punishment upon the guilty culprits without fear or favor.

Our laws were not written, decreed nor promulgated by some heartless and haughty despot, but they represent the best legal thought and legislative efforts of the leading minds of the state of yesteryears and today.

Our laws represent the thought of the sane, liberty-loving, law-abiding and patriotic citizens, expressed and written into the statute book by the people's chosen and duly elected representatives. At least this is the supposition.

The law is the vox populi (voice of the people), which in turn is called the vox dei (voice of God).

The law is a composite of the best in jurisprudence and is society's only safeguard and protection.

Discard law and order, man will revert to the brute age, the law of the survival of the fittest will obtain and this state and nation will go to smithereens.

Lawlessness and contempt for constituted authority are diametrically at variance with the fundamentals of a democratic republic and lawlessness and law and order can not thrive on the same soil simultaneously and contemporaneously.

All past nations succumbed when law and order failed to get a hearing; when the few sought to invoke their wrath and displeasure upon the many and this demise is one of the immutable and inexorable laws of the cosmos.

Daily Texas is disgraced and receives no small amount of unfavorable publicity because of the lawless activities and depredations of the high and low criminals within her borders, whose acts of violence are apparently winked at by the authorities.

Organized bands, like roaring lions, are traversing the highways and even forcing entrances into homes of citizens seeking those upon whom to vent out their hellish and Hunnish spleen, meanness, cussedness and "kultur."

Mobs form and function at the least provocation and at no provocation at all and the state admits its inability to cope with the situation by the absence of apprehensions and convictions for these many high-handed and glaring misdeeds and criminal acts.

Bootleggers, moonshiners, hi-jackers, gamblers, thugs, highwaymen and a galaxy of criminals seem to find Texas a fertile field in which to ply their nefarious game and commit a multitude of crimes.

Either through cowardice, ignorance or indifference, most of our constabulary and police departments are inefficient and crooked, and instead of striking terror into the hearts of the criminals, the pussy-footing, vacillating, dilly-dallying tactics and namby-pamby and weak-kneed actions of officers of the law seem to nerve and encourage our exceedingly large and ubiquitous criminal colony.

Texas (as well as the South and nation) needs an old-fashioned revival of law and order, void of the usual "arousements" attending religious efforts under said name, and all efforts should be bended to make and maintain the law supreme and insure the perpetuity, peace and progress of the commonwealth.

This should and must be done in the broad daylight, without masks and clandestine operations and activities, but backed by the legal machinery of the state, set in motion by the "conscript fathers" of the early days; when men possessed the courage of their convictions and were unafraid to challenge wrong and to espouse the cause of right.

Let's teach our children to obey the law, because obedience to law is the first prerequisite of good citizenship; for the foundation of the republic rests upon law and order and respect for constituted authority.

Let's bend every honorable and honest effort to change our state's status from that of "lawless Texas" to "law and order Texas."

To do this our primary work must be undertaken around the family fireside and pushed forward by the school and church.

Ignorance, in many forms, is the direct cause of crime, both individually and collectively.

The cause can only be removed through symmetrical, sane and sensible education, and this campaign suggested and initiated by Governor Neff can accomplish much in this respect, provided it receives the whole-hearted support of those who should and do believe in law and order and the constitution.

It's never too late to do good and here's hoping that this campaign of education will bring forth much fruit and redound to the best interest of the state and nation.

TEXAS SHOWS HER STRIPE AGAIN!

The civilized world was shocked and horrified during the week when news of the quadruple lynching in Freestone County was spread broadcast over the globe. Houston Informer

A triple burning, followed by a single hanging, showed just about how far Texas has advanced in civilization. 5/13/21

Four American citizens, accused of a heinous, brutal and revolting crime, were denied their constitutional rights and a mob of cowardly hoodlums—composed of some of the "best white people" of the community—set themselves up as judge, jury and lord high executioner and by so doing reduced themselves lower in the scales of civilization than the unfortunate black victims of their hellish, heathenish and Hunnish kultur.

The Informer deplores and deprecates all crimes and neither the color of the criminal's nor victim's skin influences this paper one whit in its position.

Perhaps if less attention were paid to the color of the alleged criminal and more to the crime, there would not be so many abortions of justice.

It seems peculiarly strange and odd that no preparations are ever made to block the depredations of the mobs, yet as soon as the damnable and diabolical stunt has been pulled off, ample preparations and precautions are taken to prevent a "Negro uprising" and "reprisals."

The governor of Texas and the sheriff of Freestone County knew that the feeling was so high and intense against the accused colored men that mob violence was inevitable and yet no steps were taken to protect the prisoners and assure them of a fair and impartial trial.

It appears as if it was just a mutual agreement or tacit understanding in permitting the Kirvin horror to be staged and then raise a Macedonian cry for aid to suppress an "uprising of Negroes that seems imminent."

As long as only a few "niggers" were to be treated to an overdose of Judge Lynch's concoction the authorities nodded assent and made no attempt to disperse the mob and give the law a chance to function.

But as soon as it was rumored, mind you, that the colored citizens were indignant and planned to avenge the horrible and brutal orgy (practically a baseless rumor without any foundation in fact), outside help was hurriedly dispatched to the mobocratic region, not "to investigate the lynching, but to aid local authorities in suppressing any outbreak among the Negroes," according to reports published in white newspapers.

Truly the wicked fleeth when no man pursueth, for your sins will find you out.

Why did not Governor Neff show as much diligence and official interest before the lynching, to avoid it, as he did to rush Texas rangers to the scene after the lynching bee, to nip any "Negro uprising" (?) in the bud?

Even a blind man can see into this latest fiasco and the loose and lax methods of the officials in handling this and other mobbing stunts are calculated to do much towards breeding and creating disrespect for law and order and constituted authority and one shudders as he contemplates the future of this country with mobocracy running rampant and public officials and citizens winking at, conniving, condoning, aiding and abetting the lynchers and their ilk.

This paper has denounced and decried lynching and other miscarriages of justice so much that it seems like a waste of time, energy and effort, but be that as it will or may The Informer shall continue to plead for justice and fair play for colored America until these barbaric and brutal demonstrations and orgies are reduced to a minimum, if not eradicated in toto.

We have laws in this country to protect the trees and fowls of the air and there are certain seasons in the year when game cannot be killed, and if the hunter does so he commits the act at his own peril.

But we maintain an "open season" the entire year for mobbing, burning, beating and otherwise maltreating and abusing human beings who are so unfortunate as to possess dark skins, and only feeble voices are raised here and there against such savage and uncivilized depredations and atrocities.

While the United States senate debates and considers everything except the federal measure to bring the crime of lynching under the purview of the national government, all kinds of brutalities and barbarities are being perpetrated with impunity upon a group of America's most ardent and loyal citizens.

IS OUR GOVERNMENT IMPOTENT AND WHOLLY UNABLE TO PUT A CHECK UPON SUCH MOBOCRATIC OUTRAGES AND HELLOCRATIC HORRORS?

ARE OUR REPRESENTATIVES AND THOSE IN AUTHORITY MORE INTERESTED IN BEING RE-ELECTED AND RETAINED IN OFFICE THAN IN MAKING AND MAINTAINING THIS REPUTED DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC SAFE FOR ALL ITS CITIZENS?

HOW LONG WILL MORAL COWARDICE, POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS AND SELFISH AMBITIONS SO DOMINATE AND MOTIVATE MEN THAT THEY REFUSE TO SEE THEIR PATH OF HOLDEN DUTY?

HOW LONG CAN AMERICA ENDURE WITH A DIVIDED HOUSE?

CAN THIS COUNTRY LONG SURVIVE PART DEMOCRATIC, PART PLUTOCRATIC, PART MOBOCRATIC, PART APATHETIC AND PART "HELLOCRATIC?"

EITHER LYNCH LAW MUST GO OR AMERICA IS GONE, and it takes no political prophet or civic wiseacre to discover this immutable, unyielding and inexorable truth, for the law of retribution altereth not and the people that forget God will surely come to destruction.

Let us bear in mind that, "WHOM THE GODS WOULD DESTROY THEY FIRST MAKE MAD." Selah!

Lynchings — 1922.

Discussions.

Virginia (Negro Press)

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1013

There were thirty lynchings during the first six months of the current year, two of the victims being white and five of them being burned at the stake. The lynching industry is one of the most disreputable to which the Nation gives indirectly its aid and comfort by doing nothing to discourage it.

Texas Interracial Committee Takes Stand on Lynching

10/18/22

Wilmington Advocate

At a meeting of the Texas State Interracial Committee, recently held at Dallas, the women members issued the following ringing declaration:

"Lynching is the black spot on America's soil." So long as America holds the record for its illegal taking of life, so long as the headlines of foreign papers carry in large letters "America Burns Another Negro," just so long will her shame be world-wide. We have no security unless the law protects us. Mob violence knows no law. As women, as the mothers of men, we protest. We condemn every violation of law in the taking of life, no matter what the crime. We declare ourselves for law and order at all costs. The public has a right to prompt and sustained justice and should demand such of officials and courts. We believe that America should not permit ignorance and prejudice to be capitalized.

Delaware

In common with the great and honored Henry W. Grady of our own Southland, we say, "Not in Passion, my countrymen, but in reason, not in narrowness, but in breadth may we solve this problem in calmness and in truth, and lifting its shadows, let perpetual sunshine pour down on two races walking together in peace and contentment."

MURDER IS MURDER.

Dallas Express, Dallas, Texas 11/21/22

IN COMMENTING UPON the Sterling Bill which was recently introduced in the Senate regulating murder growing out of the interruption of interstate commerce the Cincinnati Enquirer has the following to say:

"Senator Sterling has introduced a bill making it a felony under the Federal law for any person or persons to interfere with the operation of trains in interstate commerce, and making such persons chargeable with murder in the event that lives are lost as a result of such interference.

Rather singular that such a law already is not on the statute books. Murder is murder, but some kinds of murder are more atrocious and abhorrent than others. The fiends who deliberately and with malice aforethought plan the wrecking of trains as an act of revenge against the owners of the roads, and thus, through the execution of their designs, cause the death of innocent and helpless passengers, should be held to be beyond the pale of human mercy. No punishment could be sufficiently severe for the criminals of this class.

Senator Sterling's bill should become a law. Difficult as it is to believe, there are in this country many men who seek to justify such slaughter as an act of reprisal against those they hold to be their enemies. The logic of this murderous philosophy is the same as that preached by the advocates of German frightfulness during the World War.

Murder—the murder of innocent and denfenseless men, women and children—at the hands of autocratic groups is becoming more common every day. The horror of Herrin was only a little more spectacular than other industrial crimes, and the frankly lawless I. W. W. no longer is the only outstanding agency responsible for industrial murder.

Let the criminal code be strengthened in the nation and the states. Society should take up the red gage of battle thrown down by the lawless legions of autocratic anarchy."

We gladly agree to the truth of these observations but wonder why the editor could not have also found it in his heart to have gone a step farther and considered the thousands of more fiendish and brutal murders which have been popularized in America under the name of lynching. It is murder and its victims no less than those of the anarchists of which he speaks have ever had numbered among them defenceless women and children.

Certainly it would seem that even as the Sterling bill is worthy of support as a deterrent for murder such as strikers activities lead to, the Dyer Bill which seeks to cause the cessation of murders no less common but for more fiendish is even more deserving of such support.

It is unfortunate that partisan politics have hindered the passage of this measure and lessened its chances for passage, for lessened they certainly are.

During the debate on the Anti-Lynching Bill in the House of Representatives more than one Southern member declared that the States would grapple resolutely with the evil if only let alone. It was, indeed, hoped that the discussion itself might bring about a new sensitiveness on the subject and induce Governors and Sheriffs to be more outspoken and vigorous in defending men and women threatened by the mob. Such an effect may have been wrought in certain States. It is a hopeful sign that, in the new organization of a million women to stop lynching in the United States, directors from every Southern State are taking part. Yet atrocious instances of lynching are reported from month to month. That they are a shame to this country, and that they constitute a taunt difficult for Americans to meet when they protest against Turkish atrocities or outrages in Russia, no one denies. Yet the efforts to put an end to the disgrace seem to have accomplished little.

The Republicans were charged with insincerely advocating the bill merely in order to win the Colored vote in the Congressional elections. On the other hand, the Democrats in the Senate filibustered against the bill and talked it out with an unconcealed party intent. Next December the matter will normally come up as unfinished business. It is possible that then it may be considered as one not of party interest but of national concern. By a patriotic agreement some act may be passed to put the stamp of Federal disapproval upon a form of lawlessness which brings the whole nation into disrepute.

We truly hope that this may be the case and that eventually our whole nation may come to realize that murder is murder wherever committed.

LYNCHING CONTINUE.

10/21/22

In a little more than two months there have been nine lynchings in Georgia. Instead of showing a falling off, mob murder there is on the increase. The state authorities seem to take it as a matter of course that these things should be, for no effort is made to bring the murderers to justice.

10/31/22 Dallas Express Wall Citizen

The only measure that has been advanced to curb lynchings is the Dyer bill, which long since was passed by the House. The Senate daillied with the measure for many months, then adjourned without taking action on it. Through its neglect the national scandal has grown, until we find Mexico pointing the finger of scorn at us, for some of her people were included in the number slain in the mob murders as Herrin, Ill., last June.

Georgia is one of the most progressive states in the South, but its record in the matter of lynchings is the worst possible. Public sentiment here appears to condone the practice. In the circumstances the national government should act. It is the plain duty of congress to take such steps as will assure to every man his day in court. This rest upon congress as a constitutional obligation. —Buffalo News.

CAN A WHITE MAN BE GUILTY OF CRIME PUNISHABLE BY DEATH WHEN A NEGRO IS INVOLVED?

Birmingham Reporter

In the murder of old man Peter Fike and in the light of a decision of a Jefferson Couny jury rendered this week, the question arises, is a white man ever guilty of murder when he kills a Negro? According to the evidence in one of our criminal courts here, a white man by the name of Glover killed Uncle Peter Fike out near Sayreton a few months ago by beating him to death with a stick loaded with iron. A white man by the name of Alvin Spradling testified to the murder before the jury and claimed that he objected to the way Glover was beating the colored man, for which he was attacked himself. The jury deliberated three hours and fixed the punishment at twelve months! There is no disposition on the part of this publication to further establish the guilt or innocence of the man who is charged with the murder, nor is it our mind to criticise the orderly procedure of the court or interfere with its management in any manner, but, living in a growing and thriving community such as this, such a verdict, in the face of the crime, looks rather curious and causes one to think what must a white man do to constitute a crime punishable under our criminal code. Old man Peter Fike was a defenseless character, helpless and law-abiding, gave no offense and was reared perhaps and largely kept by white people. He was killed outright and the crime was laid at the door of a man by the name of Glover. It seems that in this instance we have a clear miscarriage of justice, and it is clear that this

infraction of our law is made because a Negro was the victim.

The Birmingham Post of Wednesday has a very comprehensive opinion on this matter, and because of the open and fair discussion of the verdict we are reprinting the editorial in this issue of The Reporter.

This is a sample of the bravery, as well as the cruelty, of a certain element of white people. This group will continue their savage passion, killing, and pillaging Negroes as long as our courts and the leaders of that race permit the violation and minimize the crime. 10-14-22.

It is useless to argue what would have happened if a Negro had murdered a white man under similar circumstances, or a Jew or an Italian had committed the same crime, the possibilities are that the verdict would have been far different and it is doubtful whether the Negro would ever have entered a court of law. In the light of this verdict we would ask the question, where are we drifting? What might we expect in the next decade? Does a white man violate the laws when he attacks, murders and kills black people? If he does, how may he be reached through the court? If not, where may the Negro get relief? How many more cases of Peter Fikes do we have? Uncle Peter was not a smart aleck Negro, not an uppish, impudent, educated Negro, as the charge is sometimes made; he was the humble kind, half blind and defenseless, cordial and well behaved; he committed no crime, he attacked no one, and should have had every protection of the law. It is a pitiable shame, it is a disgrace on the South and civilization. This case should not be overlooked by any decent man, the act and attitude threatens the very basis of our civilization, engenders hate and malice, disrespect and indifference.

The Birmingham Post has spoken at a time when a word from the daily press is necessary and the colored race must feel somewhat secure when such fine exposure and sensible presentation is made of the case as was expressed by The Post Wednesday, October eleventh.

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CAN THE SOUTH PROTECT HER OWN?

An old time friend of mine has sent me a long letter, and among other things, she says:

"I can tell you, the reason the Harpoon has been a success, all these years. I have known you since childhood, and believe I am a more competent judge, than the average reader. Nine-tenths of your readers take the Harpoon, simply because you always seem to be running over with spontoneous hilarity, and good natured fun."

I really do not know whether or not my friend guessed correctly, but if she did, I hereby warn Harpoon readers, there will be precious little "fun, and hilarity" in this particular article. I certainly don't feel hilarious tonight. The clock is just striking twelve for mightnight. It is my favorite hour to begin work, for 75 per cent of the "copy" that has appeared in the Harpoon for over twenty years—has been written between midnight and daylight.

Tonight—Sunday, May 7th, 1922—is cloudy, cool, and pleasant, and as I look out through the open window, Nature seems to say: "Isn't this a beautiful, and pleasant world, in which to live? Have I done well for the sons and daughters of men? Say your prayers, go to sleep and rest in peace."

But I cannot go to sleep—although I have tried to do so, for three hours, in vain. A horrible sense of impending peril seems to be hanging over me, despite my efforts to the contrary. Every time I close my eyes, and attempt to sleep, I fancy I see great red splotches of blood floating before my face—I see white throats, clutched in the grasp of murderous black fingers—and in fancy, seem to hear the strangling cries of helpless Southern white women and young girls, begging for their honor and their lives.

A Nero, could not sleep under such conditions—neither will I attempt to do so.

* * * * *

It has been nearly four decades ago, since I wrote my first article, calling attention to the "danger confronting American white womanhood," because of the horde of emancipated ex-slave Africans in this country. These horrible, senseless, lecherous attacks were practically unknown, until years after the negroes were set free, by Lincoln's proclamaation.

The black man was illiterate then—had only been taught how to work and earn an honest living. He was a happy, care-free creature at that time, looked upon the Southern white man as his friend, and never dreamed of harming the "Ole Missis," or one of "De white chillun."

Then began the silly crusade, led by religious fanatics, for "Christianizing, and educating the African" to the spiritual, mental, and moral plane of the white men—despite the *explicit command of Christ Himself, warning them against such a senseless and dangerous experiment.* (Matt. 1: 6.)

Since that time, the brutal murderous work of the black rapist, has kept even pace, with his advancement in the white man's education, and none, save a blatant fool or irresponsible fanatic, will have the nerve to deny this assertion. Read the record and you will find it true.

It has been many a long year, since I wrote and published the identical sentiments expressed above. I had become absolutely convinced that my theory was correct—and I caught "Hades On The Wabash" from every full grown mental nut, religious crank, and nigger-loving son-of-a-gun, from gehenna to grape fruit.

They accused me of "hating the negro," of being "opposed to education, and religion," and vociferously declared that it was a mortal sin on my part to contend that an illiterate, ignorant African, would be a more dependable, happier and valuable creature, than when educated. That was my contention.

Well—I have never yet changed my mind on this point.

On the contrary, I find thousands of other people, reluctantly admitting that the attempt to Christianize and educate the mongrel herd of ethnological misfits, (which now represents the African in America) "has been a failure."

It is a thousand times worse than a failure—for its results are too horrible to contemplate. It has not only destroyed every hope of ever being able to remedy the evil, but has caused thousands of the most honest, loyal, patriotic and law-abiding people in this country, to absolutely lose their heads—become momentarily transformed into avenging, merciless mobs — ready to wreak horrible vengence against the black-skinned beasts that are raping, strangling, and murdering every defenseless white woman and young

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girl, not even sparing the helpless girl babies, in rompers. Can you wonder at mob law—and want to punish the man (or his neighbors) who metes out any sort of violence to these damnable black hellians—whom the white man has educated—and attempted to civilize?

In the morning's paper, I read of the capture and burning to death of three negroes by a mob of infuriated white men, near the town of Kirvin, in North Texas. They were taken, one by one, and burned alive. The officials were powerless to prevent it.

Reading the incident by thousands and thousands of people in distant states, will bring forth rancous yells of condemnation, against the mob of infuriated men, who took the law in their own hands and executed this trio of negroes. In order to keep the record straight, and for the benefit of that ever-ready class of Northern saints—who voluntarily assume social, mental and moral equality with the African, and his mongrel hybrids in this contry—I will relate the circumstances that led to this horrible incident. I will make the story brief, for even the writing of it is enough to cause the red blood of every 100 per cent white American to rush through his veins, until Reason staggers upon her throne.

On the farm of Mr. Otis C. King, near the town mentioned, lived three negro farm hands—Snap Curry, 26 years old; Mose Jones, 19, and John Cornish, 39. The negro Curry, was married.

Seventeen year old Eula Ausley—the neice of Mr. Otis King, lived with her uncle, and attended school in the neighborhood—riding there on horse back. Naturally she met the three negro farm hands daily.

One day—the last day of school—pretty Eula Ausley failed to show up at home. Horrible forebodings fell upon the household—a hurried search was made—and the riderless horse was soon found, but the girl was still missing.

The neighborhood was aroused—and among the searchers, was at least one of the negroes responsible for the absence of the missing girl.

About daylight, the mutilated form of Eula Ausley was found by her uncle, Otis King.

According to the leader of the trio—Snap Curry—they had been planning the outrage for over a month—intending to capture another white women at the same time. Circumstances prevented a favorable opportunity—and knowing it to be the last day of school—they intercepted the unsuspecting victim as she was on her way to the school house. Even then, she suspected nothing, until Curry suddenly seized the bridle while his accomplices dragged her to the ground, stifling her cries by strangling her into semi-unconsciousness.

* * * * *

Only God—and the angels—will ever know just how long this helpless orphan writhed in the clutches of these miserable African hyenas.

When the body was finally discovered, the sight was sufficient to transform a saint into a raging fiend in human form—ready to deal out death and destruction to the authors of the crime—and anyone else—who dared to stop them. Men are not sane under such provocation, and it is a crime for any man, or set of men, to insist on a course of action, leading up to such conditions.

The once handsome face and form of Eula Ausley was scarcely recognizable. After being choked and repeatedly abused into semi-unconsciousness, two of the devils remained on watch, while Curry sought up and down the little branch, for a hole of water deep enough to drown their victim. Failing in this, he returned, and her throat was cut from ear to ear—the quivering nude body flung into a muddy spot, and the head and face *stamped deep into the mire*, by the feet of the ruthless slayers.

I only write down a small part of the inhuman, beastly, unthinkable, hell-invented indignities—heaped upon that helpless orphan daughter of the South—by a trio of American mule-niggers. It is too horrible and beastly to put into cold type.

Men of the South—this is the danger that I have been feebly fighting single-handed for over a *quarter of a century!* Every Harpoon reader from Maine to California, can testify to the truth of this statement!

Every dollar I have been able to earn (outside of a scanty living) I have spent in what seemed a futile effort to arouse American white manhood to the undeniable fact, that *not one single American white woman or young girl, is safe in the Southland*, when left unprotected by white men! I thank God that those who scoffed loudest, are now admitting "Bonner was right—our wives and daughters are in danger, and we will protect them, or die in the attempt!"

I am still on the firing line, and all I need is ammunition! Pass it along, boys—and we will make America safe for our wives and daughters—in spite of white coon-chasers, who have filled this country with a horde of lecherous, irresponsible mongrel misfite—crowding over towns and cities to suffocation—a menace to every white female, from grown women to milk-bottle girl babies!

Emboldened by enfranchisement, these semi-educated "cullud pussons," have densely infested the capital of the great white man's country — even debating and making monkeys of our white representatives—who—fearing the power at the polls, disgrace their white constituency by condescending to parley with trained monkeys.

O, tempores! O, mores!" O, h—ades!

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July 15, 1922 F. Lynching Discussion

K. LAMITY ANSWERS A LETTER

One of the most highly appreciated communications I have received for quite a while, was the following letter, and statement. It came from W. N. Work, negro editor of the "Negro Year Book," an annual publication, which I presume is connected with the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, founded by the late Booker T. Washington, at Tuskegee, Alabama.

One of the industries connected with this great negro school, is keeping record of the number of negroes, who become victims of mob violence each year in this country. In order to give Harpoon readers a fair, and correct view of the matter, I herewith print the entire letter, which was addressed to The Harpoon editor, and read as follows:

"Dear Sir: For a considerable time I have been an interested reader of your valued publication and have noted your desire for fair play and accuracy of statement. Knowing this, I am sure that you want the facts relative to the number of negroes lynched for rape as compared with those lynched for other crimes.

"From the best and most accurate sources of information it is found that: In the thirty-seven years, 1885-1921, there were 829 persons, 60 whites and 769 negroes put to death by mobs, under the charge of rape or attempted rape. This is one-fifth or 20.2 per cent of the total number of persons, 4,097, who were lynched during that period. On the other hand, 3,268 or four-fifths of those lynched were put to death for causes other than rape. This refutes the charge that the majority of lynchings are for the crime of rape.

"An investigation into the causes of lynching made some time ago showed that: Over ten per cent of the negroes lynched were for such minor offences as "grave robbery, threatened political exposures, slander, self-defense, wife-beating, cutting levees, kidnapping, voodooism, poisoning horses, writing insulting letters, incendiary language, swindling, jilting a girl, colonizing negroes, turning states evidences, political troubles, ambling, quarreling, poisoning wells, throwing stones, unpopularity, making threats, circulating scandals, being troublesome, bad reputation, drunkenness, strike rioting, rioting, insults, supposed offences, insulting women, fraud, criminal abortion, alleged stock poinoning, enticing servant away, etc., etc.

"Very sincerely yours,

"Munroe N. Work, Editor Negro Year Book."

In commenting on this statement, I will first remark, that it comes from a source, entirely "one-sided." By this, I do not intend to convey the idea, that the statement is not correct, but as it was collected by parties solely interested in securing evidence beneficial to their side of the question, it seems perfectly natural—and positively human—that it should be utilized as far as possible, in the interest of the interested parties.

The writer is certainly correct, when he states, that in reading The Harpoon, he has noted my "desire for fair play and accuracy of statement." If I am any judge of my own nature, it's predominating characteristic is an overpowering ambition to treat every living man, and creature, right—demanding no more from them, than I am willing to freely grant in return. I may be suffering under some illusion, as to my ability to understand myself, and therefore may be unable to accurately determine, or state, what I really want to do—but I *think* I know—and as a man "thinketh in his heart, so is he." (Prov. 23:7).

My correspondent shows, that there has been 4,097 deaths by mob law in the United States, since 1885, to the present date. Of this number, there were 769 negroes, and 60 white men, accused of rape. From this, he makes the following conclusion: "This refutes the charge, that the majority of lynching, are from the crime of rape"—and seems to really think he has hit the bull's-eye, when in fact, he has missed it a mile. Giving him credit in advance, for being willing to be convinced by proof, I am going to show him, and every Harpoon reader, that I am absolutely correct, when I assert, that the crime of outraging, murdering—and the senseless beastly mangling—of unprotected Southern white women, and young girls (including girl babies, scarcely out of the cradle) is *solely responsible* for the wave of anti-negro feeling now sweeping over America—and is the prime cause of mob law. And while the lead is running freely in my pencil, let me hasten to add that in my honest opinion, if this slaughter of Southern womanhood is not stopped—speedily and forever—the time is perilously near, when a live negro will not be found south of the Mason and Dixon line—probably not in the United States. If this statement produces a laugh, I advise you to begin laughing now. He may cross over, and leave the South alone, but in that case, I very seriously doubt, whether or not he will be permitted to remain. The real white man—North or South—will not readily consent to the admission of any race of people, so persistently and confirmly addicted to the gentle art of raping and murdering the wives and daughters of real red-blooded white men.

It is not a difficult task to discover the cause for mob law in this country—or why it is more common in the South, than in the North. Any ordinary white man knows the reason—and so does the negro—provided he has as much sense as an armadillo. Many of them pretend to be absolutely astonished, and bewildered, trying to understand why the white man kills the debaucher and murderer of his wife or daughter. Why doesn't the bereaved man arrest him; put him in jail; wait until the grand jury meets next year; have him indicted; compel his wife (or young daughter) to appear, and testify to the unspeakable and degrading torture and humiliation to which she has been subjected—in case they are alive; secure judge and jury, and spend six weeks trying the miserable beast, in a court room filled with a motley mob of wall-eyed, sensation-loving white and black hoodlums? And if the jury finds he is guilty, then he will be hung—ten or twelve years later—after the law, and the lawyers, have gotten through. So why not let the law take its course—even though the worthless bloody wretch has been caught in the act—and everybody knows him to be guilty?

Theoretically, they ought to wait.

Positively, they are not going to wait.

So there you are—and there you are going to stay, unless a miracle happens—when I very much doubt.

Here lies the whole trouble—which I have been writing about, for much more than a quarter of a century. What I am writing *now*, I wrote as far back as the *early* '80s. I knew it was coming then, and I know it is here now. And while it has been much longer in coming to a head, than I anticipated, there is no denying, that the time for settling the question, is at our doors, and nothing is left for the white man, except to protect his own, or die in the attempt. White civilization will either dominate this country—and the whole world—or civilization will pass away, and take its flight forever.

The identical trouble now existing between whites and blacks, is not new in the world's history. It has always begun, when the negro was brought in as a slave to the white man, and the unpardonable sin of amalgamation started. Carried to its ultimate limit, it simply means hell and damnation—the absolute and eternal destruction of

both whites and blacks—unless civilization is a myth, the Bible a fake, and common decency an empty dream.

The pure blood of the white man, and the pure blood of the African, are "good,"—for God said they were. He created them separate, and distinct, and intended them to remain so. If not, why all those multitudinous warnings to the white Jew, not to mix their blood with that of the other nations—either black, or mulatto? God not only forbid amalgamation of whites and blacks, but even positively forbid the interbreeding of different domestic animals. (Lev. 19:19). The degenerate *white man* alone, is responsible for mixing white blood, with that of the ignorant African in this country—but thank God, we still retain a *pure white womanhood*—and it will be protected—or civilization is doomed.

But an evil has been done, past all hopes of reformation. According to our most gifted ethnologists, "there is not a single pure blooded African today in America, who is a descendent of the old-time slaves.

What we now term the "negro race" in this country, are neither African, or whites—but an amalgamated mass of mongrels, neither white or black, and known as "mulattoes," or mule-niggers—from the Spanish word "mula," meaning a mule—a cross between a real black negress, and a two-legged white jackass—and the blame falls solely upon the jack. He ought to be shot—and the time is coming when the dirty devil will be shot—when caught invading the home of the law abiding negro. If the negro is afraid to do it, he can quickly find a hundred decent white men who will be delighted to take the job off his hands.

I want to assure my Muskogee correspondent, that raping and the murdering of white women in the South, is the *foundation* of all the attacks on negroes in this country. They are growing more numerous each day, and unless something is speedily done to stop these senseless and horrible attacks on white women, a reformation is certain to take place.

All this senseless boasting, and tom foolery by bigoted negroes, and the accumulation of guns and ammunition, is too childish to even consider. I know they are "egged on" by a contingent of lecherous white burros—who are secretly debauching the ever-ready black women—but when they hear some one light a parlor match, they'll drop him like a small boy drops the horse shoe, in the blacksmith shop. The negro cannot fight the white man and even hope to win—and if you have a particle of sense, you know this is true, and don't ever imagine, that the decent white men of the North, will ever oppose the Southern man, when he is fighting for the safety of home, wife and children, from rape feinds.

The only solution for the problem I can even imagine, that will prevent a final clash between whites and blacks in this country, is for the negro to *eternally cease* his horrible, senseless, lecherous attacks on white women—but I feel confident he will never do it. The difficulty is that he hasn't sense enough to realize the slender reed upon which he is leaning—and his lechery overcomes his better judgment—if he ever had any.

Their educational advancement is carrying them backwards—for their sole ambition is to compete with the white man—and he *won't let him*—and they know it. He will be exceedingly fair with them—until they begin to get in his way. Then, you'll move—whether it is fair, or not. I am not saying this to discourage the negro—but merely for the sake of telling the truth.

Neither do I expect you to pay the slightest attention to my advice—for I don't think you will. The time will come however, when you will remember what I have written here and will have to acknowledge that I am telling you the bare-backed facts—even if they do seem harsh.

In conclusion, I want to assure you, that there is no time to lose, nor deceive yourself with the erroneous idea that, in case a clash between whites and blacks is ever precipitated in this country, the negro element will not be backed up by any considerable number of white men. The negro was set free by white men—but his freedom did not include immunity from justice, or a license for outraging the unprotected wives and daughters of the Southland, leaving their mangled bodies strewn from the Rio Grande to the Mason and Dixon line.

Having suffered intensely for need of it, I appreciate the value of education, when bestowed upon a human being able to understand, appreciate, and use it. After many years of slavery, and many years thereafter, such outrages as are now of daily occurrence, were practically unknown in the South—and not one negro out of every hundred, could spell his own name, or read a line.

Then came the cry for "education," and candor compels me to assert, that for quick advancement in literature, and raping white women, the ex-slave walks off with the persimmons. Fifty years has done the work.

I do not assert that there is any connection between the accumulation of knowledge, and the inclination for commission of such crimes, but I do remember, that Southern white women were *absolutely safe*, when surrounded by the illiterate, old-time black man—but that *now*, she must *have a body-guard*, or be in danger every moment of her life.

Incidently, I also remember, that one of the most prominent negro educators that America has ever produced, had a walking stick worn out over him—when an irate white husband detected him, with his eye glued to a keyhole—watching the white man's wife in a bath room. Had he been in Texas, there would have been a vacancy for another teacher, to a certainty.

I have no idea on earth, that this article will produce the slightest effect upon, what to me, seems the inevitable settling of the question under consideration, in a very short time. In its settlement, I fail to see how the people who have been so insistent upon the education of the negro, are going to be very much elated over the result of their efforts. If the attempt to Christianize, and educate an ignorant, superstitious, admittedly inferior, but trustworthy race of Africa, ev-slaves, has transformed them into a horde of lawless fiends, outraging and murdering every white woman falling into their bloody hands—I am inclined to the conclusion, that Jesus Christ was *absolutely right, when commenting upon this identical subject.* (Matt. 7:6).)

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Butts Sides

LYNCHING A LA MODE

(Under the above caption, the Los Angeles Times adds its quota, and encouragement, to two classes of the most dangerous criminals known to civilization—and I propose to prove it. EDITOR).

"The code of Judge Lynch has found a fervent advocate—in no less a person than a man whose neck was about to be broken under its rope.

"In every art there are those who pursue it for a definite end, regardless of technique, and then there are others who see in the art itself the matter of real importance.

"It must be admitted that the once highly technical art of lynching has been handled rather hastily and without due regard to form, by amateurs in recent years. Originally a group of gentlemen who thought that their conclusions as to guilt could be arrived at more expiditiously and more accurately than the findings of a court, decided to get rid of a man. He was then taken out, allowed a number of courtesies, including a smoke, a final statement (which no one paid any attention to), and was then hanged. The body was not hacked to pieces or shot full of holes or burned. He was simply murdered by a mob—in the most courteous manner imaginable.

"Of recent years lynching has entered upon a wider phase. It is not only resorted to more frequently, but generally is entirely devoid of even the pretense of a trial or hearing. The victim is generally mangled before he is strung up, fiends later tearing the body to pieces to satiate a blood lust which even death often fails to appease. The code of Judge Lynch has been desecrated and its traditions, once almost as firmly fixed as the routine of the king's justice, have been grossly violated.

"In Waco, Tex., the other day, Curley Hackney, just before he was lynched, succeeded in restoring most of the technique of the once elaborate code.

" 'There's no use arguing with a mob,' " he said. 'You hold aces; I hold deuces.' All of which is according to the very best standard for those who are about to be lynched. Then he leaned against a tree and smoked while the crowd argued as to what he should be hanged with.

"Skid chains, utterly unknown to the code, were suggested. He protested. 'Do it in the old way, boys. Get a rope,' he said. When they were slipping the rope over his head he called attention to the fact that the noose properly belonged under his left ear. The considerate hangmen were not unmindful of his suggestion.

"He then reminded them that he should 'take off' from a gate or from the back of a horse. The mob being made up of automobiles, he agreed to the use of the gate. Even at the last he had to instruct his murderers in their art. They had forgotten to tie his hands, which meant that he would 'figure the rope.' They bound him.

"Having been so courteous, he made one request—that his body be not filled with holes after he was dead. They agreed. He was then hurled from the gate—and his body was filled with bullets! For all of his zeal to uphold the code, it was violated in that final act, which always makes a lynching doubly hideous.

And yet, not many years ago, they lynched another man (later proved to be innocent) in that same section of the country. Pieces of his skin were taken as souvenirs and his body was thrown to the hogs. Waco is to be congratulated on its advancement toward civilization!"

As the Harpoon readers know, this paper has never been an advocate of lynch-law. Our laws, as now written, appear ample for meting out justice to the average criminal, and usually does, notwithstanding its interminable and unnecessary delay. Yet do all you may, there are frequently crimes and outrages perpetrated by a certain class of congenital moral lepers that are unimaginable to the normal man—the very news of it puts him in a frenzy—this mental virus spreads like a prairie fire in August, and a lynching is the inevitable result.

The printing and reading of just such articles as the above are one of the greatest incentives to the identical class of moral misfits, who alone commit such horrible and disgusting crimes. It must be remembered that they are not normal human beings—hence laws enacted for the benefit of the average, or normal man, has not the slightest deterrent effect upon these degenerate hell-cats. Barred from decent society, they hate it as the devils hate the angels, and readily risk their worthless lives, in order to gratify their hellish lust, and at the same time show their contempt for civilization and human laws.

The world has many laws—far too many—and they are multiplying at a rate that makes Old Man Infinity hot-foot it to keep from being overtaken and passed. Our law-makers seem to be following the plan of old Dr. Takeitt, who, after examining the patient, invariably prescribed a quart of pills—with instructions to give one every ten minutes until something happened—or the patient died.

We have now, on our statute books, all, and more laws, than we can ever need. They are written just as well as they ever will be written, and if properly and promptly enforced, will keep the docket just as clean, and banish just as much crime, as human nature and human efforts will ever be capable of accomplishing.

The bane of all human law is its abominable and inexcusable delay. By this, I do not for a moment mean to endorse, or advocate unseemly haste—yet I do contend that, as now administered, human laws tend as much (or more) to encourage the vicious element in the commission of crime, than it does to prevent such crime.

After reading this far (if he has the nerve to do so), the reader will naturally ask the question: "Well, tell us why such delay—who is to blame, and how do you propose to apply the remedy—if there be a remedy?"

The answer is simple, and the remedy likewise—but who is going to give the pills?

There are two persons—or rather classes of persons—who are to blame—the first class, for intentionally retarding the just and normal speed of the wheels of Law and Justice—and the second group, for permitting them to do so. Remember, the fact that the first class, are put in power (and kept in power) by the second class, and can be quickly forced to do their duty, or resign their positions of authority, and give place to more prompt and faithful public servants.

It is practically surplusage to go on and state that the first class is composed of every public servant, whose duty is to enforce the laws of the country—from the highest judges, clear down to the humblest official.

Every man who has the power to retard a reasonably prompt enforcement of any law—and does so—is *particeps criminis* with the original lawbreaker—and equally guilty.

Now you have the answer.

What are you going to do about it?

You are going to do nothing, of course.

You know it is true—you are bound to agree with me—but you will simply continue right along in the same old rut—grunting and groaning like hell, yet doing absolutely nothing to remedy the evil.

In the meantime the reckless, irresponsible and vicious element is going to keep up its accustomed activity—rape, murder, robbery, arson and theft will increase—for that breed of human mongrels are born gamblers and have the nerve to take their chances for escape. In case of apprehension they know that the game has just started. Time is what they want, either to escape from custody or cheat the law, and they know that Law's first name is mañana—and a great friend to the lawyers. The criminal has become convinced that he can do anything he likes and get away with it—if he can only get the proper lawyer to defend him—and the lawyer can get enough time.

Therefore, I repeat, that the law's delay is the greatest incentive for crime known to civilization. It induces such creatures as Curley Hackney (a pervert beyond reclaim) to commit such deeds as causes decent men and women to shudder in their shoes. Such creatures are not cowards—and rehearsal of their hellish defiance of God and Man through the press represents glory to their distorted minds, as well as a direct encouragement to their damnable successors.

Please don't imagine that I am the first man to discover that the law's delay is the chief cause for crime in this world. Over 1,000 years before the birth of Christ, a very intelligent gentleman made the following remark:

"Because sentence against an evil work is not executed speedily, therefore the heart of the sons of men, is fully set in them to do evil." (Eccl., 8, 11.)

If the evil in the law's delays during the days of Solomon brought forth such an accusation, it need be a matter of comment for latter-day people to recognize the fact. It was an incentive to crime in Solomon's time—and is worse now—but who will even attempt to minimize, much less destroy the evil? And echo answers, "Who?"

This is the program that has always been followed in such cases, as that of the vicious, beastly, ungrateful, lawless, Curley Hackney—and the gang of self-appointed executioners, who disgusted and enraged beyond human control over his hellish and inhuman deeds against society, hung him to a gate and riddled his buzzardly carcass with bullets. And that is not all—mobs of infuriated men have been acting precisely the same way—and are going to keep at it industriously—until one of two things come to pass.

First—the law must be shorn of its age-old habit of long and unnecessary delay in punishing men proven and known to be guilty.

Second—or the crop of such miserable congenital hellcats as Curley Hackney must become a perrennial failure—and remain a failure. That's the cards on the table—all face up. You can take either you like, but the game will end just the same.

The boastful impudence of this hard-boiled, alleged human, *hijo de perro* amounted to nothing, so far as the members of the mob was concerned, but a reproduction of it in a newspaper was a most regrettable error, no matter how much he desired to villify the crowd of men who did the job. As before stated, these men paid no attention to it, but it will never fail to encourage the same class of people—the man who possesses the same spirit as Hackney—and looks upon such a death as winding up a glorious career. The world is full of such senseless cattle, and to encourage them is criminal.

But let me give a short rehearsal of the actual deeds—the miserable, inhuman, beastly acts of the dirty white hellion, who not only committed a most atrocious crime, but added to it the damnable sin of ingratitude—like the lousy cur that eats the food and then bites the merciful hand that feeds it. I got the story from first hands, from a resident of Waco, and know it is true.

Curley Hackney—at least that is what he called himself—drifted into Waco on the wave of a circus, got into a fight, was badly wounded, and left stranded.

A kind-hearted man who happened to see his condition, took him to his home and, with the help of his good wife, they nursed him, fed him, and cared for him until he was practically convalescent.

One day they went out to make some purchases—leaving their little 8-year-old daughter to entertain their guest. Returning shortly afterward, they were horrified to find their little child, bloody, unconscious and alone—but their bird of passage, upon whom they had lavished their kindness and care, had flown. The child had been horribly mutilated and outraged.

When the news burst forth an eager and avenging crowd of friends and neighbors began a search for the hellion in human shape whom they instinctively believed to be the guilty assailant, and he was finally discovered hiding in a vacant building, still bearing bloody evidences of his inhuman attack upon the defenseless young girl.

It is stated that the inhuman beast did not deny the crime, and finally, realizing his well-merited fate would meet a speedy punishment, recovered his nerve and cooly defied the avengers to do their worst. They simply hung him, and riddled his beastly carcass with bullets.

That's the story simply told, and no one denies or doubts it.

The white man who doubts this is either a natural-born fool or a confirmed damned liar.

He can take his choice, so far as I am concerned—and the white man who wastes maudlin sentiment over the death of such devil's spawn deserves no better fate than the culprit himself.

I hope you catch my meaning.

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Lynchings — 1922
Discussion

White Press (Alabama)

BIRMINGHAM ALA AGE HERALD
JANUARY 16, 1922

SHOULD HAVE ALL THE FACTS AS TO LYNCHINGS

John S. Williams, a well-to-do white planter of Jessup county, Georgia, has begun serving a life sentence in the Georgia penitentiary for the murder of negro farm hands.

Williams had the means with which to employ able counsel and make a well-conducted fight for acquittal. The principal witness against him was a negro accomplice. In spite of his previous standing in the community, his wealth and the fact that a black man was the main reliance of the prosecution, this white man was found guilty by other white men and given a life term as a common felon.

The supreme court of Georgia was unanimous in affirming the decision of the trial court. Legal technicalities have been of no avail. White men of Georgia have declared that black men shall be protected from violence.

Professional gatherers of lynching data have a marked propensity for omitting the equally important facts bearing on the lives that have been sacrificed in the protection of negro criminals and the expense to which southern states have been put to enforce the laws.

Several whites were killed two years ago in Knoxville to protect from mob violence a convicted and confessed rapist and murderer of a little white girl. Alabama's law officers have more than once shot down white men clamoring for the life of a negro criminal.

The case is not fairly made out until all the facts are presented. The south, for the protection of negro criminals, has given the blood and money of her own people. That is sufficient evidence that the south has a problem of its own which it is endeavoring to solve.

LYNCHING

Montgomery Advertiser

Texas can claim many other States; South and North, as partners in the sorry business of lynching. These partners have been as indulgent and apathetic in their attitudes toward lynching as has Texas. In other States, as in this, it has been the practice to clamor for investigation following rope parties and incinerations. Governors, judges of courts and many citizens have insisted upon investigations. Grand juries on occasions have looked into the bad business. But the sum total of actual results, in so far as their suppressing value is concerned, has been negligible.—Dallas Journal.

Alabama is to be excepted. It hasn't extirpated the lynching evil, but it has made more progress than some of its sister States, and is not yet thinking of retiring from the labor of reform in this regard.

URGES SOUTH HANDLE QUESTION OF NEGRO

Senator Harris of Georgia Attacks Newspaper Article Placed Before Congress

Mont advertiser

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, July 13.—Urging that the negro question be left for the South to solve, Senator Harris, democrat, Georgia, speaking today in the senate, attacked Senator Calder, republican, New York, for [illegible]ng in the congressional record [illegible]ticle from a New York news[illegible]t a lynching in Georgia. S[illegible]s charged that Senator C[illegible] "for political purposes" [illegible]o get negro votes in his [illegible]

"There is [illegible]sness in New York City in [illegible]han there is in Georgia in a[illegible]clared Senator Harris, reading accounts of crimes from several New York dailies. "Even in the day time there is danger in certain sections of that city." Senator Harris said negroes who went to the North during the war had found that they had received more consideration and better treatment than they did north of the Mason and Dixon line and that returning negroes had spread this word among the negroes who had remained at home.

Senator Shields, democrat, Tennessee, referring to the killing of mine workers at Herrin, Ill., recently, said no attempt had been made to apprehend those responsible.

BIRMINGHAM ALA AGE HERALD
JULY 14, 1922

USE GAS BOMBS TO DISPERSE MOBS

Lynching is a blight on American civilization. Nearly every thoughtful citizen of the country concedes that to be a fact. The Dyer anti-lynching bill is unconstitutional, and it would be hard to frame a federal law that could be enforced without seriously infringing on the rights of the states.

Legal authorities frequently permit lynchings because of their own cowardice or unwillingness to fire on friends and even relatives who may be in a mob, bent on hanging or burning their prisoners.

Why not solve the problem with gas? An ugly mob was repulsed from a jail in Jackson, Mich., by tear gas, but not until after the prisoner had been spirited away. The sheriff could have saved time and wear and tear of his patience by using chemicals when the crowd refused to disperse.

Why not equip every jail with enough gas bombs to repel an attack? They would be far more effective than guns and pistols, and officers would be more inclined to use them promptly, because no loss of life would follow. Gas would take all the mob spirit out of the most enraged citizen who ever attempted to storm a jail, and it would be useful, too, in case there was a riot among the prisoners.

Successful experiments have been made by police in New York and elsewhere with gas bombs to quell uprisings and capture desperate criminals. The suffering they cause is violent, but it is temporary, and not fatal. When we make more progress in suppressing crime and preventing lawless outbreaks we may substitute gas for firearms and get far better results.

A VICIOUS INFLUENCE OVER CHILDREN.

Montgomery Advertiser

Houston Post.

Every reader of the account of the burning at the stake of a small boy by his play fellows, who were too young to realize the danger in their play, stands aghast at the horror of the incident. 7-27-22

The tragedy but reflects the psychology of a large part of the Nation today. The spirit of the mob is far-flung. It appears infectious, manifesting itself in many forms. There is a craving for a victim. Respect for the rights of the individual have been lost sight of by far too many people who are misconceiving their duties and responsibilities as citizens.

Surely, it is time for the people to stop and take account of the drift of things when the children in their play imitate the mob. Children ape their elders. They are influenced by what they hear and see. Much of their play is mere imitation of what their elders are doing.

If the children of today are playing mob, not realizing the heinousness of mob violence, what will the harvest be when they grow up?

It has been said that playing soldier by children has been a vital factor in developing the martial spirit among the peoples of the world. If in this era of public callousness toward mob violence children train themselves in mob action through innocent play, will not constituted authority be even weaker than now, when the new generation comes into control?

The burning of this child was, of course, an extreme case, but nothing more than might be expected, with the newspapers telling almost every day of burnings, hangings and beatings of victims by mobs. Every man who has taken part in the burning at the stake of another human being during these last two or three bloody years of lawlessness is responsible in a measure for this latest horror, unintentioned as it was.

The blood of this innocent child is on the head of every mob member in the country. He may escape apprehension by the authorities of his State, but he shall not escape responsibility at the bar of his own conscience, nor in the eternal court of justice.

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Lynchings - 1922.
Discussion.

White Press. (California)

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SAN FRANCISCO CAL CALL
MAY 23, 1922

An Infectious Disease in Texas

IN TEXAS last week a mob dragged a negro for eight blocks through the town of Texarkana, strangling him to death. Twice the crowd stopped and tried to hang the body to a telephone pole, but each time some one cried: "No, let's burn him!" and down came the body again. Finally these poor, pathetic, miserable and bewildered men tired of their sport, and went away to their homes, emotionally bedraggled, to prepare to protect themselves from an "uprising of the negroes."

But why was that negro lynched? "For a sex crime, of course. It's the only way the South can handle the negro question. You Northerners don't know what you're talking about when you attack lynching. Try living in the South for six months and you'll change your tune." . . . But it didn't happen to be a sex crime in this instance. The negro had committed a burglary, that was all. And ordinarily in the South the white men look indulgently on the thefts of negroes. They say that it is as natural for a negro to steal as it is for him to breathe. The white employers of domestic servants take advantage of that and pay their help very little—expecting, even encouraging, them to steal the rest from the kitchen. But this particular negro was lynched so horribly just for stealing.

Why? The answer is that Texas white men indulged last week in a lynching spree. Some days before this lynching down in Texas they burned three negroes who had been charged with murdering a white girl. They died bravely, one singing as he died. But the madness was not exhausted by that triple murder. It looked around for other food and just as it flared out it caught this other black man and devoured him, too—not because he had done anything to deserve it, but because the mob's rule is that one good crime deserves another.

LOS ANGELES CAL TIMES
MAY 9, 1922

SOUTHERN JUSTICE.

"Southern justice," according to a dispatch from a Texas town, was meted out to three negroes accused of assaulting and slaying a white girl. The negroes were tied in turn to an iron stake in the market place and burned to death.

For two generations white women have been criminally assaulted by black men in certain sections of the South; and the suspected assailants, when caught, have been burned to death without trial. More negroes have been burned in Texas than in any other State, and more white women have been assaulted there. It would seem that it should be apparent to the white Texans themselves that mob vengeance does not act as a deterrent to such crimes.

Burning a human being alive is to yield to a savage instinct. It is murder in its most horrible form, second in atrociousness only to the crime of which the negroes were accused. It is mob vengeance in its most revolting type. But preaching against it seems to have little effect on hot-blooded and lawless whites in Texas and other Southern States.

When the white residents of a community have so little respect for or faith in legal justice one can hardly marvel that the vicious appetites of the most ignorant among the blacks should know neither legal nor moral restraints.

One wonders whether the white people of the South will ever learn that murder cannot justify murder; that they cannot understand the form of punishment they inflict is itself an incentive to criminal lust. Psychologists will tell you that it is not due merely to coincidence that the State in which the most negroes are burned at the stake is the State in which the greatest number of white women are criminally assaulted by blacks.

One of the anomalies of human nature is that extreme peril whets the lustful appetite. In the oriental countries where the higher class of women are kept in absolute seclusion and where it is death even to enter their apartments those women are most subject to amorous pursuit and lustful attack than any others. Pathological experience proves very conclusively that the greater the element of danger the more powerful in depraved individuals is the incentive to criminal attack.

Los Angeles has a large colored population. They were all either born in the South or are the descendants of southern negroes. There has not been a negro lynched here for criminal assault in a generation and, according to the police records, in 100 cases of criminal assault last reported not one has been that of a white woman by a colored man.

There is a lesson in these records for the whites of the South to learn. The ordered process of the law, including hanging or life imprisonment for criminal assault, is a much greater deterrent against such crimes than mob justice, taking the form of burning at the stake.

Victims of mob violence, whatever their crimes, enjoy a certain martyrdom. Hanging after conviction, on the other hand, is an unattractive, vulgar form of death. There is nothing exciting about it. The process is too slow to quicken the lustful instinct by menace of instant death. Negroes who have confessed after being legally convicted have said that lynch law multiplies the chances of escape; for the mob is likely to lynch the first negro it catches and the real criminal is then out of danger because to convict him would be to admit that an innocent man had been murdered. The members of the mob, it seems, shrink from a conviction, which would be a conviction of themselves.

Mob vengeance for any crime cannot be justified, even as a deterrent measure. The experience in Texas and other Southern States during two generations tends to prove that the very nature of the punishment, in cases of criminal assault, tends to quicken the lustful instincts and make such outrages more prevalent.

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussions.

White Press (Colorado.)

1022

COLORADO SPGS COL GAZETTE
MAY 23 1922

Because of Such Outrages as These the Nation Must Act

With the burning of a fourteen-year-old negro boy at the stake, Texas announces its seventh lynching within as many days. It is worthy of note that death in most cases was by burning. Over in Georgia there is even greater fiendishness. A press dispatch last week described the handling of a fifteen-year-old boy. "He was tortured over a slow fire "for fifteen minutes and then, shrieking "with pain, was questioned concerning his "accomplices . . . . More than 200 "shots were fired into the charred body "following the boy's death."

Still we carried on relentless warfare against the Indian for savagery not in any way comparable with this!

Grant provocation, anger, passion, everything, it remains that men who thus give vent to feeling reduce themselves to the state of the savage. And with each outburst they but breed further contempt for the institutions which we praise as the result of our civilization. It is not possible for outraged sensibilities to find expression in mob action without debasement, not only of those directly responsible but of the whole people. So it is that it remains for the nation to act. What cannot be stopped in other ways must be stopped by the federal government.

Lynchings — 1922. White Press (D.C.)
Discussions.

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WASHINGTON D. C. STAR
JUNE 14, 1922

NEGRO "SILENT PARADE" PROTESTS LYNCHINGS

Men and Women From Professions in Which They Have Achieved Success Among Marchers.

A "silent parade" was held yesterday by the negro population of Washington as a protest against continued lynchings of members of their race and in an effort to influence early action by Congress on the Dyer anti-lynching bill now before the Senate judiciary committee.

The entire absence of the bands, usually a characteristic element of street marches in the capital, lent additional impressiveness to the demonstration. Several thousands were in the long line which was topped by scores of posters and streamers setting forth details of recent lynchings which were declared to have set a new record in May.

Men and women representatives of every profession in which the negro has achieved success were included among the marchers, as were also delegations from the various fraternal and civic organizations. A group of boys bore a sign which read:

"We are fifteen years old; one of our age was roasted alive."

Another sign declared "Congress discusses constitutionality while the smoke of burning bodies darkens the heavens."

The route of the parade was around the Capitol grounds, through Pennsylvania avenue past the White House to 17th street. The marchers disbanded at the end as silently as they had traversed the streets.

Members of the committee of 100 who had charge of the parade included Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, wife of Judge Robert H. Terrell, who has just been renominated for the Municipal Court to succeed himself; Mrs. Coralie Franklin Cook, member of the board of education; Mrs. S. A. McAdoo, in charge of the Phyllis Wheatley Y. W. C. A.; Mrs. Carrie W. Clifford, Mrs. George Haines, Mrs. Julia West Hamilton, Mrs. Madre-Marshall, president of the Bethel Literary Society; Mrs. E. T. Mayer, Mrs. Dr. S. E. Carson, Mrs. Theresa Lee Connely, Dr. N. Fairfax Brown, Miss Mustafa, Dr. Walter H. Brooks, chairman of the committee; Shelby J. Davidson, chairman of the executive committee; Mr. E. B. Henderson and Maj. Milton T. Dean, who was marshal of the parade, with Capt. Eugene L. C. Davidson as adjutant.

Lynchings – 1922

Discussion

White Press (Florida)

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TAMPA FLA TRIBUNE
JANUARY 7, 1922

The lynching evil will disappear when the negroes turn to the Tuskegees of the South instead of to congress.

Lynchings—1922.
Discussions of.

998 General

THE MURDEROUS MOB

(Atlanta Constitution 9-22-22)

The Negro who was recently lynched in Barrow County was guilty of a heartless cruelty that would have committed murder to accomplish his purpose of burglary. He would have found nothing but swift punishment in any courthouse. It was a clear case of guilt which no weak sentimentalism could ever have influenced. The trial would have been by a white jury.

And yet a murderous mob snatches the prisoner from the clutches of the law. The negro was depraved enough to have committed murder, the mob did commit murder. This lynching was not for the one gross crime. The records show that on an average more than two-thirds of the lynchings were for crimes other than the one gross cause.

Our pastors, mostly Baptist and Methodist in the country, must not put on the soft pedal when it comes to the crime of murder, though committed by a mob. A Church that is dependent for its existence on the lawless element had better go out of business.

We make no specific accusation against any order, but the Ku Klux organization after operating for several months does not appear to have helped matters. If they are as unprejudiced against the Negro as they profess to be, if they are the champions of true Americanism as they boast, and if they are as numerous as they claim; why have they not succeeded in checking the lynching evil. Their order might be justified if the law-respecting citizens were able to see tangible good accomplished.

We enumerate some facts, which if fairly reckoned with will help to eradicate this stigma from Georgia.

1. The white race have complete control of the machinery of the courts and the government. Will the white race fail?

Only a small minority participate in or sympathize with lynching. The evil in Georgia is localized in thirty-five counties, which have had three-fourths of the lynchings. Fifty-eight others have had only one or two, and sixty-seven counties have never resorted to this practice and are proud of it. Thus it is a proposition of the majority of Georgians protecting the reputation of the State against the acts of the few.

The names of these thirty-five counties which fasten a shame on the entire State could be named.

2. The members of the mob are cowards regardless of a certain recklessness. The mob does what any one member of the mob would be afraid to do on his own responsibility.

3. Lynching is anarchy which strikes at the authority of government and commits the trial and execution of justice to men whose madness has dethroned reason.

4. There is furthermore the fearful possibility of murdering an innocent person. There are indisputable cases in which this has been done.

5. Lynching results in a widening disrespect for all laws, as is seen by the murder of the vast majority who have been lynched for other causes than the one alleged cause, some of them trivial causes.

6. There is the irreparable injury and further degradation of character which comes to every member of the mob. These men can never be the same again. Ever after they are more dangerous citizens, especially if allowed to serve on the jury, and they carry a secret memory which results in an effort to erase from the memory a crime by further acts which gratify a bloodthirsty nature.

7. There are some comparative considerations that should strengthen the morale of our State.

This fact we must face: viz.: that Georgians have, in the past 37 years lynched 439 people, an average of about 12 per year. Compare the record of 439 lynchings, or 12 per year in Georgia with 126, or about 4 per year in South Carolina. Compare with Virginia and North Carolina with 77 and 75 lynchings respectively, an annual average of two. South Carolina, with almost as many Negroes as Georgia, has only a third the number of lynchings. Virginia and North Carolina with over half the number of Negroes in Georgia, have one-sixth the number of lynchings. Within the past three years Tennessee has had only one lynching, and the people of Alabama have also made remarkably praiseworthy progress in abolishing lynching in that State.

Before the adoption of her anti-lynching provision in the constitution of 1901, the average number of lynchings in Alabama was 12 per year, the same as the number in Georgia, but since the adoption of that provision their average has dropped to 5 per year, while ours has continued at 12. Even this provision has been recently strengthened and the average has fallen to about two per year. South Carolina averaged 5 lynchings per year before the adoption of their constitution of 1895, and has averaged only 3.4 per year since that date. Since the installation of the State police and the courageous use of this body by Governor Roberts of Tennessee three years ago, there has been only one lynching in Tennessee, and this man was killed before he ever came into the hands of duly constituted officers. In face of these facts is it possible to say that nothing can be done in Georgia?

II

Some helpful constructive measures have been suggested by the State Committee on Race Relations:

1. In order to secure convictions more frequently it is suggested that the Attorney General and Chief Justice of Georgia be given power to shift judges and solicitors for these special cases. This provision is in effective operation in several States notably Alabama.

2. In order that more lynchings may be prevented it is suggested that when the State's finances are improved a State police similar to the Texas rangers, be added. This force would be very valuable in coping with any other cases where the criminals operate in several counties, such as cases of automobile theft and liquor running. Such a force is very effective in Tennessee, Pennsylvania and Alabama.

3. The immediate measure suggested is one which was originally asked for by Governor Northen in 1892. This measure would provide for the removal of a sheriff who is proven derelict in his duty. South Carolina, Kentucky, and Florida have given the governor this power. In Alabama the matter is still further removed from politics by providing that the sheriff be tried before the Supreme Court.

4. More vigorous local action in the counties is also suggested. Sheriffs and solicitors should be more strongly backed up. The action of the citizens of Athens and Clarke County is this respect is especially praised and recommended to other counties. In this place eight hundred citizens signed up to help the sheriff protect a prisoner if he thought it necessary. Because this was generally known no mob was formed.

Vigorous local action has resulted in indictments of lynchings in three of the eight cases occurring in Georgia during the first six months of 1922. In two counties members of unsuccessful mobs are being sued for damages.

LYNCHING NOT PECULIAR TO AMERICA

LAIS ME ADVERTISER
NOVEMBER 8, 1922

Our British cousins are apt to assume an air of superiority when they talk about mob murders that take place in this country, and they are not sparing of such adjectives as "brutal" and "barbarous" when they discuss the work of our lynchers. Unfortunately we cannot deny the applicability of these characterizations, but we need not be too ready to admit the pretensions to superiority, for across the water, too, brutality and barbarism exist and occasionally manifest themeseles as frankly and murderously as they do here.

For instance, nothing much if any worse happens in any of our States than the killing in Glasgow, very recently, of one Stewart, who, in spite of his royal name, was a ship's cook. Just returned from a voyage, he went to a village near Glasgow to get his adopted son, a boy of 5, and bring him into the city. The child was barefoot and grimy, while Stewart was well dressed, and a woman on the tramcar who recognized the boy leaped to the conclusion that he was being carried off by a kidnapper. She set up an outcry, a crowd gathered, and, without giving the man the slightest opportunity to explain that the boy was his, it attacked him. No weapons were used, but in a few miuntes the man had been hammered and kicked by the mob so savagely that he died under the blows.

The police arrived in time to make two arrests, and the charge against the prisoners is that in Dalmarnock Road they "assaulted Robert Alexander Stewart, beat him with their fists, knocked him down, kicked him, and did murder him."

What happens next may—probably will—illustrate a difference between the administration of justice in Great Britain and the United States; but though two of Stewart's assailants doubtless will be tried, it seems improbable, as they were no worse than the other members of the lynching party, that they will be punished as well.

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The report also points out that in the West, where lynching first became prevalent, this disgraceful procedure exists no longer. State machinery and local courts have been strengthened, and lynching has ceased. In the South lynching gained foothold during reconstruction days when courts were weak and society disorganized. The remedy proposed for the South is, therefore, stronger State machinery, more respect for local courts and more citizen activity in backing up the constituted officers. The citizens and civic organizations are appealed to to take up this program.

5. No member of a mob nor any citizen who is in sympathy with mob violence should be allowed to serve on the jury. This is the reasonable position which is advocated by the League for enforcement of law through the constituted authorities.

6. The united action of all the law-respecting elements of the State must make itself felt in a most emphatic way. The State Committee on Race Relations is making an earnest effort to stem the tide of lawlessness, and are giving the benefit of their investigation of the methods used by other States that are in a situation similar to that of Georgia.

Thirty years ago, in 1892, Governor Northen, in his message to the General Assembly, stated that there was too much lynching in Georgia, and in speaking of lynchers said:

"These self-constituted judges and executioners are more than murderers. They have not only taken human life without authority or excuse, but they have put before their fellow citizens an example, which, if followed to any extent, would speedily result in the dissolution of society itself. It becomes the General Assembly to consider and provide the proper remedy for this evil by legislation.

"Surely your coming together (as legislators) were worse than idle, and the machinery of justice a hollow and expensive mockery, if your will, after being crystallized into solemn statutes, to be read of all men can be contemned and trampled upon."

The Georgia Bar Association has also frequently discussed this subject, especially in 1897, 1899, 1908, 1910 and 1916. In all their discussions not one single apologist for lynching has come forward.

[illegible] on offered. Our [illegible] and jurists are one in condemnation [illegible] lynching.

On this point our own Georgia Women's Committee on Race Relations has given us straight thinking expressed in no uncertain terms:

"We find in our hearts no extenuation for crime, be it violation of womanhood, mob-violence, or the illegal taking of human life.

"We are convinced that if there is any one crime more dangerous than another it is that crime which strikes at the root of and undermines constituted authority, breaks all laws and restraints of civilization, substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice; and deprives sodiety of a sense of protection against barbarism.

"Therefore we believe that no falser appeal can be made to Southern womanhood than that mob-violence is necessary for the protection of womanhood or that the brutal practice of lynching and burning human beings is an expression of chivalry. We believe that these methods are no protection to anything or anybody, but that they jeopardize every right and every security that we possess."

What About Our "Unspeakables"

American metropolitan dailies are raising a considerable hue and cry over the massacre of Armenians by the Turks. They are outspoken in their denunciation of "the unspeakable Turk." They point out that the difference between the American and the Turk: is the lack of the element of pity in the latter's temperament. The Ohio State Pioneer

"The Kansas City Star," one of the most outspoken of the journals, in an editorial captioned "The Tragedy of the Turk," says: Cleveland O.

The Turk remains a mystery to most Americans. In a recent discussion of the near East by Lothrop Stoddard at the City Club, a hearer inquired whether there was anything in the Mohammedan religion approximating the doctrine of the brotherhood of man in Christianity. He felt that the absence of such a doctrine might account for the barbarous Armenian massacres.

What most of us overlook is that humanitarianism as we know it today in Europe and America, is a late development of civilization. It had its origin in the eighteenth century, but did not reach its present shape until the nineteenth.

In the last century and a half western ideals have been transformed. But there are still peoples living in the stage of culture of the Middle Ages. 11-4-22

The Turks are living still in the cultural stage preceding the development of humanitarianism. They have the misfortune to be in an important geographical location, and to rule over regions where are sprinkled alien races of perhaps a slightly higher stage of culture. In consequence the same sort of barbarity is common that was common in Europe in the period, say, of the Thirty Years' War.

The tragedy of the Turk is that in him the fifteenth century intrudes into the twentieth.

Now we readily concede the fact that the Turkish massacres of Armenians—if the stories of the naturally biased press can be beleived without mental reservations—are inhuman and brutal; yet it seems to us that the American press can ill afford to heap condemnation upon the head of the Turk, until conditions in America, with regard to inhumanity and brutality, are materially changed.

In the present day there are "two unspeakables"—the Turk and the white American lyncher. The latter even goes "the unspeakable Turk" one better. We cite illustrations:

Not long ago there came blood-curdling news from Valdosta, in the state of Georgia, that Mrs. Mary Turner, eight months pregnant, was hanged head downwards, disembowelled, and her unborn babe trampled by white Americans.

And again. A returned World War veteran was lynched in Arkansas by a mob of five thousand white men, and the sheriff of the county carried home the victim's heart for a souvenir.

And yet another: In Bogalusa, Louisiana, another World War veteran was tied to an automobile and dragged through the streets for more than an hour. Afterwards his body was saturated with kerosene and burned to a crisp, while thousands of "unspeakables" cheered.

The thousands lynched and massacred in riots like those of East St. Louis, Chicago, Washington, Omaha, Tulsa and the rest, give abundant testimony to the fact that a large number of white Americans are still living in the fifteenth century.

And yet despite all the facts that can be quoted in support of the assertion that America boasts "unspeakables" in common with Turkey in Europe, the United States Congress has just failed, after much palaver, to pass a law against the abominable practice of lynching.

The similarity in the American and Turkish situation is plainly apparent. And moreover the Turks know it. Well do we remember the incident in which Rustem Bey, the Turkish diplomat at Washington took a parting shot at President Wilson, when the latter rebuked Bey on account of the prevailing massacres of Armenians in Turkey. Drawing himself up to his full height Rustem Bey retorted: "The massacre of Armenians in Turkey, Mr. President, is not any worse than the lynching of Negroes in America."

Surely, if the doctrine of the brotherhood of man in Christianity as professed by Americans, does not affect the attitude of the mob, it must have absolutely no hold on the Turks, who are Mohammedan, and thus have not come under the humanitarian influence of Christianity.

The editorial space devoted to abuse of the Turks, who are far away and know it not, might be more profitably used in abusing the hoodlums who besmirch America's name, whenever they desire a Sunday afternoon diversion.

According to press reports—which of course are sometim very unreliable—the lynching bee has stung Negroes. It is said that a mob of Harlem Negroes attempted to lynch another Negro who had murdered his wife. This of course goes to prove that we are essentially like other people and are truly American. It is not reasonable to suppose that we could entirely escape this lynching mania since we are so thoroughly United States.

Lynchings - 1922.
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SAVANNAH GA NEWS
MAY 20, 1922

LYNCHING.

At its worst, a lynching is quickly over; the guilty victim is dead; he can be hurt no more. But there remains a living victim that bears its injuries for a long time. No merciful bullet puts an end to its sufferings; it can recover only after long years. That victim is the law, which is another name for the people's expression of their sense of right, of justice, of civilization. Through ages of experience law is evolved; and law says that it is not good for our conception of civilization that men should be tried and killed for any crime, however terrible, without due process of law, and by due process of law is not meant the quick assembling of armed men, and the killing of a man by persons unauthorized to act for the whole people. When rope or bullet or fire ends the life of the victim of a lynching, the law suffers, a step backward has been taken in that slow and painful climb of men up toward the ideal we all have in mind.

It should not be said that certain criminals inevitably will be lynched; such criminals frequently have been accorded fair trials and been punished by the law. There is nothing "inevitable" about it and it is not good public policy to say that it is.

There be those, it is true, who say that lynchings tend to prevent some crimes; but do they? The very fact of the frequency of lynching itself is evidence that it has no such effect. If lynchings are frequent it means that crimes are frequent, and the remedy does not have the effect falsely credited to it. There is but one certain effect of lynching, and that is, that instead of tending to prevent lawlessness, it tends to pronote lawlessness. It is lawless itself and its efects must be like it.

the lynchings that have occurred in the state during the past 37 years. Lack of a determined position and action against lynchings by this element, he said, had been one of the reasons no decrease has occurred in mob violence.

"The morning after the unlawful execution," he said, "I was in our town, walked the streets and conversed with a good number of citizens; I did not see a half-dozen strange people in this town. I heard two men only talking about a lynching, and one of them was an officer who took charge of the victims purposely to take them to Savannah.

"The general public wants to know why they should have been taken away from Jesup, and especially why they should have been taken away in a Ford car, when there were fast passenger trains going straight through to Savannah making no stops.

"The general public wants to know why it was necessary for the sheriff and his deputies to take these two negroes and carry them out of this town, when they, under the law, had a right to deputize the citizenship of this town to help in the protection of these negroes.

"We demand to know how a mob of men 70 miles away could find out when these prisoners were taken from the county jail, and where they got their information of the route taken.

"The general public would like to know why the officers who had these prisoners in charge stopped at Lane's bridge 30 minutes, and told the guard that if anybody came along to tell them they were going to Savannah, and would probably have car trouble.

"The public wants to know why two men, whose names I could call, went to a citizen's house on Thursday and said: 'Let's get these two negroes and lynch them. The sheriff said it would be all right, that he would offer no resistance.'

"I have nothing against those two persons, but my sense of justice and righteousness is outraged."

GA. LYNCHINGS BEFORE SENATE

(By International News Service.)

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 13.—The placing in the congressional record by Senator Calder, Republican of New York, of a newspaper article telling of two lynchings in Georgia was denounced Thursday afternoon by Senator Harris, Democrat, of Georgia, as an effort to foment partisan prejudice.

"The state of Georgia and its governor has done tverything possible to bring the perpetrators of these lynchings to justice," said Senator Harris. "In the same newspaper which carried the account of these lynchings were other stories telling of even greater crimes committed in the city of New York. No effort was made to include these accounts in the record, and every fair-minded citizen should condemn such attempts to arouse partisan prejudice."

Senator Harris declared there was more crime in the City of New York in a week than in the whole State of Georgia in a year.

"The South has its problems and the negro is one of them," Senator Harris said. "It is doing everything possible to solve the problem, and partisan denunciations will not help. As a matter of fact the negro is better treated in the South than in the North."

Senator Harris called attention to accounts of the killing of a Jewish rabbi in New York City Wednesday and declared that the Jews have as much right to complain against justice in New York City as the negroes have in the South. He also pointed out that an Italian was slain in New York City yesterday and declared the authorities there were making no more effort to find his slayers than were the authorties of Georgia in their efforts to punish the lynchers of the negroes mentioned by Calder.

SAVANNAH GA NEWS
JUN 10 1922.

HARDWICK DENOUNCES LYNCHING "RECORDS"

Appeals to People of Georgia to Check Mob Law.

Sci. White Press

SEES THE STATE MALIGNED

Governor Addresses County Officers at Convention.

An appeal to the people of Georgia to unite in preventing lynchings and a denunciation of the reports sent out by the authorities of Tuskegee Institute as to the number of lynchings that take place in the state, which he termed as false and misleading, featured the address delivered yesterday at the Municipal Auditorium by Gov. Thomas W. Hardwick, at the opening session of the annual convention of the County Officers' Association. He spoke on "The Administration of the Law."

The concluding sessions of the County Officers Association will be held on board the steamer St. Johns this afternoon when the officers for the ensuing year will be named. The members of the association will board the steamer at the foot of Whitaker street at 9 o'clock this morning and will return to Savannah at 7 o'clock this evening.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon on board the boat, State Senator James R. Thomas will deliver an address on "What Is the Matter With the World?" Following the address the election of officers will take place after which the 1922 convention of the association will be brought to an end.

"They tell us that Georgia leads in lynchings," said Mr. Hardwick. "So they do if the statistics submitted by the authorities of Tuskegee Institute are true. Every time a law-breaking negro takes a gun in his hand and defies officers of the law and is shot down by our sheriffs in the line of duty the authorities term the killing of the black as an outrageous lynching.

"As the chief executive of Georgia, the greatest state in the Union, I am here to protest in behalf of our people against such statistics as these and against figures of these so-called census-takers from Washington whose reports reflect upon this state's fair name."

"In Coweta county a deputy sheriff went to a negro's home to serve a warrant and when the negro asked to see the warrant the officer reached in his pocket to comply with the request. While he was doing so, the negro grabbed a gun and riddled the officer's body with bullets. A number of officers gave pursuit to the negro who fled with an automatic rifle under his arm. The negro was killed resisting the officers and this was termed a lynching outrage by Tuskegee Institute. Is that fair? Is it just? I say no.

"It would be selfish and hypocritical for us to deny that lawlessness does exist in this state, at times. I say it should be stopped, but we will never stop it through the newspapers, by issuing pamphlets, or by any other such methods. We will stop it through the appeals to law-abiding Georgians, and by appealing to their sense of fairness and justice."

In concluding Mr. Hardwick said: "I stand for non-notoriety; administration of the laws fairly and a square deal to the whites and blacks alike."

The convention was opened with an address by Mayor Stewart, who welcomed the visitors on behalf of the city of Savannah. He was followed by an address of welcome by Judge Henry McAlpin, representing the county officers of Chatham county. E. D. White, president of the association, responded in a short speech in which he paid a beautiful tribute to Savannah and to the hospitality shown the county officers during their several conventions here.

Following the address of Gov. Hardwick the reports of the various committees were heard, after which the meeting adjourned. At 3 o'clock the officers of the association went to Jesup where they spent the remainder of the day.

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Official Complicity In Lynching Hinted By Pastor at Jesup

Atlanta

Rev. Holloway's Sermon Is Placed in Hands of Governor as Step in Investigation.

Atlanta Constitution

The aid of county officials in the lynching of two Wayne county negroes is strongly implied in a sermon delivered by Rev. P. T. Holloway, pastor of the Jesup Methodist church, a copy of which has been placed in the hands of Governor Hardwick, by Senator James R. Thomas, as the first step toward seeking prosecution of persons believed to be guilty of the crime. The pastor plead for law enforcement and excoriated the workings of mob law.

7-9-22

James Harvey and Joe Horton were the negroes lynched. They were convicted of an attack on a white woman. Governor Hardwick granted respites after the prison commission had recommended such action in order that it might investigate important new evidence introduced by Senator Thomas, who had taken the case at the request of a large number of Wayne county citizens.

No names of the parties alleged to have been involved in the lynching have been made public, but it is understood that sensational disclosures will be made following completion of the investigation.

Officers of Jesup and Wayne county were invited to be present last Sunday evening when the Methodist minister delivered his sermon. Mr. Holloway declared that the so-called better element of Georgia's citizenship was to blame in a large degree for

PASTORS DECRY BIBB LYNCHING

Atlanta Georgian

MACON, Ga., August 8.—A city-wide demand has gone forth from the ministers of Macon that the grand jury which convenes Tuesday get results in its probe of the lynching of a negro by a Bibb County mob last Tuesday afternoon. 8-9-22

From practically every pulpit in the city Sunday evening ministers demanded that the grand jury bring the guilty parties to trial. Strong resolutions were passed Sunday by business men of the city in their Sunday school classes. One particularly, that adopted by the Vineville Baptist Class, was severe in its arraignment of what it termed the neglect of officials in allowing the mob to take the prisoner witnout resistance.

More than 100 men of Bibb County have been summoned to appear before the jury Tuesday morning.

BIBB LYNCHING ATTACKED IN HOUSE

Atlanta Georgian

Mob Moved Over Into Monroe County To Save Officers' Face, Rutherford Declares.

8-4-22

Rising to a point of personal privilege in the House of Representatives Wednesday morning, Representative Rutherford, of Monroe County, declared that the people of his county strongly resent the action of a Bibb County mob in lynching "Cocky" Glover, a negro, within the boundary of Monroe County Tuesday.

"This negro had killed a deputy sheriff in Bibb County and had been captured in Griffin," Mr. Rutherford said. "On his way to Macon with officers of the law, he was intercepted on Bibb County soil by a Bibb County mob. However, some of the officers who had custody of the negro, appealed to the mob not to stage a lynching in Bibb County, so they took the negro across the Monroe County line to a rock quarry where he was lynched. Then the mob took the body to Macon for exhibition purposes, and later brought it back and dumped it on the people of Forsyth.

"The people of Monroe County have great sympathy for the family of the slain officer, but they had nothing to do with the lynching," Mr. Rutherford added. "Our people are law abiding. They do not take the law into their own hands. There has not been a lynching in Monroe County within my memory.

SAVANNAH GA NEWS
JULY 10, 1922

GEOGRAPHY OR POLITICS.

Where's the difference in the crime of it, the lawlessness of it, the horror of it, between the savage murder of two score persons, who were helpless to defend themselves, in an Illinois mining town and the lynching of a black brute by an infuriated mob in Georgia? There is no defense for either crime—both are alike homicide. There are no extenuations or palliations to be offered for either act; both are utterly to be condemned and should be not only censured but severely punished in a legal manner. But there are degrees of homicide; there are crimes and crimes; there are crimes which do have in them elements of excuse if not of justification and there are crimes which totally lack the semblance of excuse. One section of the country cannot in fairness and squareness of action accuse another section of the same crime which happens to be committed in a different manner. Georgia cannot well adversely criticise Illinois any more fairly than Illinois can lecture Georgia for lawlessness. And still there is a difference when geography and politics are, with their prejudices suspended for the time being. The mob which lynches a brute who has committed a nameless crime does have this to be considered in its action: The intensely inflamed passion aroused by the commission of a crime which always stirs men when a home has been wrecked, an innocent girl or woman victim worse than murdered. It is not right and it is not lawful to yield to the powerful impulse of passion for immediate, speedy, terrific revenge; such passion in expression is a crime hardly less heinous than the expression of other concentrated passion operating in other ways. And yet human nature is susceptible to passions and the act of the man who kills another in the heat of passion, anger aroused by some provocation, is peculiarly recognized by the law which sifts the crime and deals punishments to criminals. On the other hand the man who creeps up to the house of the peaceable citizen who is pursuing his own life in work under the supposed protection of the constitution and shoots him down because in the logic of circumstances the victim has obtained the job which the shooter refused to keep is not in a position to plead overpowering momentary passion as an excuse. The prearranged, premeditated plans for a campaign of hostility which in its very nature contemplates the killing of people, and in its execution does actually commit the slaughter of helpless and innocent persons by the score has no excuse much less any justification. And when the murder of this mob-sort is actuated by mere matter of monetary consideration, without the personal element of aroused and provoked anger the case is aggravated.

Georgia has no inclination to point the accusing finger at Illinois; but Illinois should never hereafter do more than sympathize with Georgia when a Georgia mob commits unlawful acts no greater in enormity than the Herrin affair.

Another Shameful Lynching In Our Beloved State

THE lynching of the negro Glover, at Holton, near Macon, on August 1, was a vicious and wicked affront to the dignity of the State of Georgia and the supremacy of the law therein. Atlanta Georgian 8-3-22

The victim, in all human probability would have been tried, speedily convicted and executed legally for his crime—which undoubtedly was an atrocious one. It was a plain case of murder and would have been handled by due process of the law. There was not involved in this lynching one element of the "usual crime," so called, so often cited by apologists for lynching. There had been no "delays of law;" there was no reason whatsoever to suppose that the law would not take its course.

Surely, the evidence is abundant and conclusive to prove that lynching has not, can not and WILL not be held even to the "usual crime" for which it occasionally is inflicted. To lynch for one thing means to lynch for another. Lawlessness always breeds lawlessness—feeds upon itself.

Disregard for law, disorder, viciousness, meanness and pure cussedness have been allowed to run rampant long enough in this state.

How long will Georgia stand for it? How long will Georgians give even passive consent that their state shall be shamed and disgraced by outlaws, ruffians, criminals and thugs—who constitute, God knows, at best a small minority of our people?

How much longer shall any Georgian who loves his state refrain from joining hands, whole-heartedly, aggressively and with grim and militant heart, with those citizens who are DETERMINED—from the Governor of this commonwealth down to the humblest honest man therein—that disorder, crime, outlawry, murder, lynchings, burning, whipping, ruffianism, tarring-and-feathering and the like shall cease, and cease FOREVER, among our people?

Lynchings — 1922 White Press (Iowa).

Discussions.

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SIOUX CITY IA JOURNAL
JUNE 10, 1922

LYNCHING RAMPANT.

Sioux Falls Argus-Leader: Ten negroes were lynched in Texas during the space of 22 days in May. Nineteen of them were burned, shot or hanged. One was shot and his body burned by a mob of people from Texas and Arkansas. The thing was done in broad daylight, in nearly every case; the perpetrators wore no masks, and no attempt was made, at least seriously, to curb the murderous passions that incited the butcheries. Whether every one of those 10 men was as guilty as the self appointed executors thought they were, no one can never know. It is now stated even by Texas papers that the man shot and burned in Waco was entirely innocent of the crime for which he was murdered. For lynching is nothing but murder, plain and simple, murder in the first degree.

It is very likely that nothing will be done to punish the offenders. The governor has recommended the passage of special legislation at the coming session to try the guilty ones in another county. This looks like a mere show of trying to comply with official duty. Nothing will be done as a matter of fact. Texas law abiding citizens seem to be in the minority just at present; or, if they are in the majority, it is a great, silent, inefficient majority; and mob rule is in power.

There is nothing to be said in favor of lynching. The very best argument for it, that is, that it prevents other crimes of the same nature as that which prompts the inhuman act of retaliation, is self refuting. For attacks on women and girls have not been stopped by lynchings which have been going on since the civil war ended. Neither is the crime for which those men were lynched, confined exclusively to the colored race. Every state in the union has or has had its quota of white men, sometimes mere boys, who have been punished for similar crimes against girlhood or womanhood.

There is no doubt that such crimes are among the blackest that ever defiled human nature. But lynching will not stop them. Every case of lynching is an anarchistic performance. It proclaims its defiance of all laws, its distrust of American laws; its belief that no justice can be obtained in this country; its proclamation that the only way left is for men to give vent to their unbridled passions for revenge and cruelty. Thus, those men place themselves on the same level of the fiends they put to death; only their sordid passions take a different angle; instead of beastly lust, it is mere sanguinary animalism, the primitive desire to shed blood for the pleasure of getting even.

When Texans get over their thirst for the blood of offending negroes, they will realize that the best and only way to deal with such crimes is to let the courts settle the matter; and judges are known to be disposed to give the full punishment for such crimes. There is a good deal said, too much, in fact, about the unfairness of courts and the remissness of judges and all that. The truth is that our courts and judges, as a class, are as good and efficient as can be found anywhere.

It was only this week that Judge Medin, of our circuit court, sentenced two men, found guilty with aggravating circumstances, of the same offenses for which most of those 10 negres were lynched, to life imprisonment, remarking that he considered the sentence not only as a fit judgment, but also as a deterrent for others who might be tempted to commit the same outrage. This was eminently fair and sensoble and to the point. It may not eradicate that kind of crime; but it will surely inspire many with a fear that will keep them from going and doing likewise.

Lynching has proved a miserable failure. Let Texas and other states in which lynchings occur try the only real American way of letting the courts punish the colored offenders against women and girls. It is the only proper way, and the only way worthy of a free people.

DEFENDER EDITOR ASSAILS BITTER AMERICAN HATE

Chicago Defender
Dec 1922

Delivers a Brilliant Address Before Crusaders Who War on Lynching

11-4-22

Des Moines, Iowa, Nov. 1.—Hon. Robert S. Abbott, LL. B., founder and editor of the World's Greatest Weekly, the Chicago Defender, was the principal speaker at the meeting of the Des Moines branch of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders, which filled to overflowing the large auditorium of the new St. Paul A. M. E. church on Monday night, Oct. 30. Over 100 new members were enrolled as a result of the remarkable address delivered by the distinguished editor and orator, whose subject was "Thou Shalt Not Kill," and among them were Judges Thompson and Bonner of the Polk county district court.

Powerful Speaker

Mr. Abbott is one of the most forceful speakers ever heard in this city and he demonstrated to the fullest extent the fact that he has a most comprehensive knowledge of conditions as regards the welfare of the Race, both North and South. Throughout his speech he was constantly interrupted by thunderous applause from his auditors and at the conclusion of his address he was the recipient of enthusiastic congratulations from the hundreds present.

"It is not at all necessary to kill a person physically to accomplish his or her murder," declared Mr. Abbott, "the crushing of men's souls through the pernicious practices of segregation and Jim Crowism and the disgusting and hateful display of Race hatred by certain classes is as much "murder" as is the shooting down, hanging, burning at the stake and other modes resorted to by our oppressors in all sections of the land. There is no rebuff so cruel, no insult so humiliating as is the showing of Racial antipathy as generally practiced today. A happy thought of a return home can be turned into one of direst repression merely by the operation of a different service by a ticket seller based on Color prejudice. No organization can adopt by-laws too strong against these murders in the abstract and no words that I can speak could be too forceful as a protest against these insidious practices which seem to be growing—ever growing."

Austin Haines, editor of the Des Moines News, in his personally conducted column, The Referee, referring to two meetings held here Monday night said: "I wish that every News reader might have been with me at St. Paul's A. M. E. church last evening and caught the spirit of the occasion. * * * Over at Ft. Des Moines hotel Senator Cummins was discussing matters of economic wisdom and political expediency. At the meeting in St. Paul's Robert S. Abbott of Chicago was discussing matters that strike at the very foundation of our civilization. Of the two meeting's Mr. Abbott's was far more vital—yet there was but a sprinkling of white persons present to consider a matter more fundamental to our welfare than it is to the Colored race—because there are more of us in this country than there are Negroes and every lynching makes life and property less secure for us."

The Des Moines Evening Tribune carried, on Monday night, a half column editorial regarding Mr. Abbott's local appearance. It referred to him as "editor of the leading Race newspaper of the United States, the Defender of Chicago" and mentioned the fact that his attitude in general regarding the so-called Race question appears from time to time over his own signature. It referred at length to the strong protest recently published in the Defender regarding the ordering of the 24th regiment to Georgia by Secretary Weeks and closes with the following paragraphs:

"The Evening Tribune has said, all it could to encourage the feeling that before long we must meet our race problems honestly in this country.

"In these days of intense group reactions we must remember that there are at least 11,000,000 Colored people in this country and that they will not forever put up with rank injustice."

There was a regular program offered at the meeting. This included music by the Des Moines Symphony orchestra and songs by the Knox male quartet. The invocation was by the Rev. Dr. S. A. Fulton of First Presbyterian church (white) and benediction by the Rev. Griffin of St. Paul's, formerly of Chicago. Mrs. Joe S. Brown, state director, National Atni-Lynching Crusaders, was mistress of ceremonies, and the speaker of the evening was introduced by Editor Austin Haines of the Daily News. Representatives of the organization were present from Council Bluffs, Mt. Pleasant, Waterloo, Burlington, Buxton and various other points throughout the state and all reported fine progress in the work concerned. Mr. Abbott left for Chicago on Wednesday.

Lynchings – 1922 (8)

White Press (Kentucky)

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Discussion

LOUISVILLE KY POST
FEBRUARY 4 1922

BREAK UP LYNCHING

The Canadian Minister of Interior who seems to be a truculent sort of a person, has refused to permit the extradition of one Bullock, a North Carolina negro, who is wanted in that State for alleged participation in a felonious conspiracy to kill white men.

What the facts are in the case at the North Carolina end we are not informed, but the reason given by the Canadian official for his conduct is obviously not the reason. He says that Bullock has behaved himself well since he escaped into Canada, but, of course, his real reason is that he has been made to believe that the negro would be lynched if taken back to North Carolina.

It is a bad policy that this Canadian official has adopted, and the time may come when Canada will regret it. But the incident has an importance for the South which should not be overlooked. So long as lynchings take place in the South the South may expect disagreeable things to be said about lynch law.

LOUISVILLE KY COURIER JR
JUNE 15, 1922

PERVERTED NEWS NOSES

That European newspaper readers, as Robert Barry points out in an article resulting from a recent sojourn in Europe, imagine America to be "a nation of gun-toting bootleggers, jazz-mad idlers, money-laden spendthrifts, immoral divorcees and bloodthirsty lynchers" is inevitable in circumstances existing.

European editors are not wholly responsible for the impression of America their columns give their readers. The American press skims the continent of its news. The European press services skim the American press of its headlines.

Naturally a lynching in Georgia is more novel, as an item in a European newspaper, than a heavy prune crop in California. A majority of married couples jog along life's highway, through sunshine or shadow, without a thought of divorce. That a few seek divorce and make nauseating revelations in striving to procure divorce is "news," whereas there is no news in the marital happiness of a greater number.

The major reason for Europe's impression of America is that news of vice and violence has, upon both sides of the Atlantic, a high place in the esteem of those whose daily task is to allocate space to news and to eliminate the dull in favor of what they believe the public will read. Another reason, by no means negligible, is that the attitude of Europe as to America is the attitude of New York is to that part of America lying west of Hudson River. For a half century Kentuckians have complained that the press of the Atlantic seaboard makes a romantic narrative of any "killing" in the Kentucky mountains and makes hardly a paragraph of any Kentucky event of importance.

Perversion of the "nose for news" is an international evil growing out of competition for the favor of a public which, beyond a doubt, reads avidly much of what it condemns vigorously.

Europeans might assert that the American press overplays shoddy "society" and shady celebrities and crime news from Europe, albeit American newspapers publish more of the legitimate news of Europe than European newspapers publish of legitimate news of America, just as Middle West newspapers publish more legitimate news of the Atlantic seaboard than Atlantic seaboard papers publish from the Middle West.

Assuredly no press has gone further than that of America in making heroines of European drabs, and giving the reader an impression of European society to which Europeans of culture and position object. The case of Gaby Des Lys, for more than a decade a celebrity of American news columns as the cause of the overthrow of the Braganza dynasty in Portugal, with which, of course, she had nothing to do, might be cited in Lisbon as a case in point.

It is improbable that an American news service in European capitals would affect greatly the character of American news in European newspapers. Its output would be called American propaganda, and propaganda is not relished by news editors.

Lynchings — 1922. 17 White Press (Illinois) 967

Discussions

CHICAGO ILL JOURNAL
MAY 2, 1922

A Lynching Horror

In reference to the triple lynching at Kirvin Tex., it is well to keep in mind certain facts reported by the Associated Press, as follows:

1. Only one of the negroes is even alleged to have confessed.

2. The other two protested their innocence to the last, in spite of "third degree" methods.

3. In spite of the very grave doubts of guilt the three negroes were not merely executed without trial, but were executed by torture; being first mutilated, then tied to an iron stake and burned to death.

The negroes were accused of assaulting and then murdering a 17-year-old girl. Horrible as that crime is, the murder by torture of three helpless human beings, two of them perhaps innocent of offense, is quite as bad. Freestone county, where this occurred, long has been notorious for tough roadhouses and moonshine stills, and part of the region was under martial law last January. But the community disgrace of a triple murder, perpetrated with every attendant circumstance of barbarity makes all earlier sins fade into insignificance.

PEORIA ILL JOURNAL
MAY 4, 1922

TEXAS' LATEST DISGRACE.

In a small Texas town, early this morning, three Negroes were taken from officials by a mob, taken to the country and burned at the same stake. A white girl had been assaulted in the community. One of the Negroes is said to have confessed. But the other two Negroes insisted they were innocent and went to their deaths pleading for a trial.

Texas does not have an enviable reputation when it comes to punishing people without trials. Few states in the union have permitted more disgraces of this sort. And this morning's triple tragedy will reflect on the honor of Texas for many years.

If the Negro assaulted the white girl and was arrested, it is a certainty that he would have been found guilty by a Texas jury and meted out strenuous punishment. That is the custom in Texas. Few Negroes who are guilty of crimes escape punishment in that state. If the two other Negroes were also guilty a jury would have returned a verdict to that effect. All three of the Negroes were in the hands of officers. There was no chance that any of them would escape. A grand jury was almost ready to open a session in that county. The court's docket was well cleared. Not a thing was in evidence which would not encourage a speedy and just decision in case the three Negroes were handled in accordance with law.

Even Texas will learn, sooner or later, that there is no better way to try criminals than in the courts, and no better way to specify punishment than in jury verdicts.

BELVIDERE ILL REPUBLICAN
JUNE 3, 1922

The recent lynching of three negroes in Texas suspected of criminal assault is a new and powerful argument in favor of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. During the last three decades there have been 3,400 murders by mobs in the United States, most of which were in the South.

SENATORS USE HERRIN CASE AS LYNCHING REPLY

Chicago Tribune 7-14-22

[BY A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

Washington, D. C., July 13.—[Special.]—The massacre of nonunion miners at Herrin, Ill., was cast in the teeth of northern senators during the debate in the senate today by southern senators who resented the insertion in the record by Senator Calder (N. Y.) of a newspaper story of the lynching of two Negroes in Georgia.

Senators Harris (Ga.), Shields (Tenn.), and Dial (S. C.) resented what they termed an effort to exaggerate lawlessness in the south.

"There is more lawlessness in the city of New York, where the senator lives, in one week than there is in the state of Georgia in a year," declared Senator Harris, addressing Senator Calder. The Georgia senator read a list of some of the crimes committed in New York within the last few hours.

Refers to Lynchings.

"Yet the senator from New York," said Senator Harris, "talks of lawlessness in Georgia and refers to lynchings. It is dangerous to walk abroad in daylight in the senator's city. It is not dangerous in Georgia.

"The south should be left alone to settle its Negro question. It is doing the very best it can and interference from outside will not help. The good people of Georgia and the south deplore lynchings, just as the good people of other states deplore them."

Senator Shields at this point said that Senator Calder had not mentioned lawlessness in the north.

"He did not say anything about the terrible recent massacre of miners at Herrin, Ill., almost in the shadow of the city hall of Chicago," said Senator Shields. "We do not know how many were killed, it runs any where from twenty-nve to forty.

Scores Illinois Officials.

"These men had committed no crime. They were lynched after they had surrendered and raised the white flag. It was a most horrible massacre. Even a crippled foreman who could not run was clubbed and beaten.

"And that was out near Chicago and the local authorities have done nothing about it, and are not trying to punish these lynchers. It is to the credit of the attorney general of Illinois that in the last day or so he has started an investigation. The city council and the sheriff at Herrin have ignored this awful affair and refused to act against this mob, which is reported to have represented 5,000 persons."

Senator Dial [N. C.] deplored the insertion of such matter in the record as that relating to the lynching in Georgia.

"I do not approve of lynching, but no section of the country has any advantage over another section when we come to consider lawless acts," he said. "I am going to object from now on to matter such as the senator from New York inserted in the record. We are about to make a yellow journal out of it."

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions

White Press (Maine)

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PORTLAND, ME., HERALD
MARCH 7, 1922

In the past 32 years Georgia has had 429 lynchings and Maine has had one. We can take pride in this record at any rate.

Lynchings — 1922. (White Press) Maryland.

Discussions

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BALTIMORE MD. EVE. SUN
MAY 23, 1922

Lynch Law And Literature.

The recent outburst of lynching and mob law generally in certain parts of the South will doubtless be pointed to in many quarters as an evidence of the decay of civilization in that section.

We make bold to say in contradiction that there is much evidence in the South today of a regeneration of the spirit and of the growth of a cultural sense which will doubtless come in time to grips with the whole question of mob law.

It is axiomatic that a high cultural and educational standard and the kind of indecency which finds its joy in the flogging of ministers and the burning of negroes are incompatible in this day and generation. One or the other must go by the board, and we do not believe that the new literary and artistic movement which Mr. Mencken described in our columns a week or two ago is going to be the one to go. When the *Reviewer*, Richmond's literary journal, made its bow over a year ago there were predictions on every hand that it would fail in short order, just as other similar efforts had failed. It has not failed. On the contrary, now well in its second year, it has a position and influence that its founders probably did not believe possible.

It is inevitable, of course, that such movements as that expressed in the *Reviewer* are denounced as "radical." This denunciation is entirely normal and quite in character. For to intimate, as the *Reviewer* does, that there is room for improvement in the cultural standards of the South is to arouse the ire of those whose minds are set and who resent the possibility of change. The epithet "radical" is the normal expression of such resentment.

But the *Reviewer* persists, and the point of view which it espouses persists, despite lynchings and despite the attacks of the Volsteadians and the anti-evolutionists and medievalists generally.

It is our belief that this spirit which is stirring in the South, and which is essentially Southern, will triumph, and in no long time, over that other spirit which expresses itself more and more desperately as defeat comes into view.

BALTIMORE MD. EVE. SUN
MAY 29, 1922

Delays Of Lynch Law.

The regularly constituted processes of law may reduce justice to tortoisean speed, but recent episodes in Georgia, the home of impatience, tend to shake one's faith in lynch law as the great remedial agency. Even the high-handed and violent exponents of immediacy in avenging the wrongs done society would seem to be subject to irritating delays. It just goes to prove all over again that in justice as in romantic ambulations the longest way round is the shortest way home.

The case of Jim Denson, negro youth who is awaiting execution of the death sentence for an attack upon an aged white woman, is very much in point. That Jim is "awaiting" execution is the significant, outstanding and strongly accented word in that sentence. It is a circumstance that exists in spite of lynch law's boasted efficacy. It is even so in spite of the customary mob, the storming of the jail, the dragging off of the victim with the rope about his neck and even subsequent pursuit by bloodhounds. The failure of lynch law occurred between the dragging away and the bloodhounds.

How he did it has not been lucidly explained, but Denson managed to defeat the swift vengeance of the righteous mob and retire into a swamp. Baffled and no doubt feeling exceeding cheap, the worthy citizens who had removed the negro from jail and given him his liberty could do nothing but slink back home. It devolved upon the despised machinery of constituted authority to repair the damage. Bloodhounds were put on the trail of the fugitive. They tracked him down. Denson remarked pleasantly "Here, doggie," and when, some time subsequent, he surrendered to the Sheriff, he had the whole pack of them trotting devotedly at his heels.

Lynch law—this is the moral—has its delays. It is not 100 per cent. immediate. Perhaps some day, after there have been a few more farce exhibitions of the Denson variety the hot-headed gentry of the "land of the free and the home of the brave" will be content to let the courts take their course.

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions

White Press (Mass.)

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Homicides and Lynchings

Baltimore Afro-American
JUN 17 '22

Wherever there are many lynchings, says the Boston Transcript there are also many cases of homicide. Conversely where there are many homicides, there are many lynchings. The two abominations go together, and wherever the one is rare so is the other.

In support of this contention the Transcript adduces the following statistics:

"In the State of Georgia there were, in the past 36 years, no fewer than 528 lynchings, a larger number than in any other State. In the city of Atlanta, in 1920, there were homicides at the rate of 409, and in the city of Savannah at the rate of 440, to the million of population.

"By contrast, in the State of Maryland there were in the same period only 23 lynchings, and in its metropolis of Baltimore the ratio of homicides to the million people was only 70.

"In the State of Tennessee there were 198 lynchings, and in its city of Memphis there were homicides at the rate of 634 to the million. By contrast there were in the State of Ohio only 20 lynchings, and in Cincinnati the homicide rate was only 57 to the million.

"In South Carolina there were in 36 years 121 lynchings, and in the city of Charleston there were in 1920 homicides at the rate of 365 to the million. In Wisconsin there were only five lynchings, and the homicide rate in its metropolis of Milwaukee was only 30.

"In Louisiana lynchings numbered 239, and the homicide rate was 169. In California lynchings were 33, and the homicide rate was 76.

"While Southern cities range from 300 to 600 and more homicides to the million, Philadelphia reports only 62, and the State of Pennsylvania had only six lynchings in the 36 years. New York city with its enormous foreign population, with feuds and vendettas innumerable, had only 59 homicides to the million; and New York State had in 36 years only two lynchings. Finally, Boston, which is by no means a city of perfect peace and brotherly love, had a homicide rate of only 51 to the million, and the State of Massachusetts proudly claims to have had in the period named not a single case of lynching."

It should not surprise us to find these two things, lynching and homicides, going hand in hand. The former is collective murder, the latter is individual murder. Both spring from the spirit of inexcusable barbarism and backwardness, which we know exist in the South.

BOSTON MASS HERALD
MAY 9, 1922

The Lynching Horror

A six-line dispatch from Fort Worth, Tex., yesterday afternoon tells us that the body of a negro, Tom Cornish, a brother of one of the victims of the lynching mob of Saturday, was found hanging to a tree limb today. Officers were informed by telephone. There the story stops.

This is a gruesome affair. Here is a man apparently lynched "for good measure" because he happened to be the brother of somebody who had been lynched. And we ought always to remember that no one could tell the real story and continue to live in Fort Worth, Tex. Any correspondent who affronted local sentiment by describing any atrocities in connection with such an affair would be driven out of town, if not made the victim of vengeance himself. Special investigators who have gone South to look into such cases have had to make a very hasty retreat.

How long a country can continue to exist with such a denial of human rights as this raises a very serious question, and one which the projected passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill does not wholly settle. We think that bill ought to be passed; it would be a step in the right direction. But, as we all see in the case of prohibition, it is difficult to carry law enforcements beyond the point where public sentiment of the locality goes.

The white race the world over does not like the colored races. Queensland in Australia, very remote in cultural strain from our United States, having never known slavery, is determined on a white Australia. That province, which has a coast line as great as that from here to Mobile, Ala., contains only 20,000 black aborigines within its boundaries, and these are steadily decreasing. The black and yellow races are absolutely excluded, and this is done with a great deal more severity than we know anything about in this continent. The federal government of Australia even grants a bounty on cane sugar raised by white labor in order to strike an indirect blow at the livelihood of colored races.

Here is one of the persisting problems of the world, upon the settlement of which we in America seem to be making small progress.

BOSTON MASS POST
MAY 18, 1922

SHOULD SPEED THE BILL

The lynching of three colored men a Kirvin, Tex., was of a peculiarly re volting, barbarous nature. Hanging c victims by mob violence is bad enough heaven knows, but the burning of thre human beings at the stake can hardl be described in words sufficiently strong

That this outrage should speed along the Dyer anti-lynching bill now in Congress, should be certain. The need for a measure that will penalize States and counties for permitting illegal executions is patent, and that Congress has the right to enact such a law is clear, because lynchings are in direct violation of the Fifth amendment to the Constitution, which declares that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

Is one part of the Constitution to be enforced by an army of sleuths, spies and agents, at a cost of millions every year, and another and far more vital part, that which seeks to protect human life from mob killing, to be totally ignored?

BOSTON MASS REPUBLIC
MAY 13, 1922

Lynching Negroes

We had been hoping th the lynching of Negroes the South was beginning pass with other relics barbarism. We learn, however, that on May 6, thr Negroes were burned to death at the same stake, Kirwin, Texas, by a mob of 500 white men for the alleged implication in the assault and murder of young white girl. Fright having failed to force confession from two of these unfortunate men, the were finally burned to death. On their charred r mains fuel and oil were flung and lighted, the flame shooting up thirty feet into the air.

Whether the Negroes had any share in the crim imputed to them, or whether they were innocen there can be no question of the crime of their white murderers. Such a spectacle can have nothing but a demoralizing effect on the community. The tidings of it should quicken the zeal of the promoters of he Federal Anti-Lynching bill now before Congress

SPRINGFIELD MASS EVE UNION
MAY 25, 1922

The Ly[illegible]ing Problem

The anti-lynching bill had been rejected by the Senate subcommittee on the belief that the bill, if enacted, would be found unconstitutional. It is, of course, necessary that any bill, to be effective, must be able to pass the closest scrutiny by the Supreme Court. As in the case of the child labor law, the fact that an enactment is much needed is not enough to save it if the court discovers that it is not in harmony with the constitutional relation of the States to the Federal Government.

This does not mean, however, that efforts to do away with the lynching disgrace should be abandoned. If one bill will not stand the test of its accordance with the Constitution another should be sought. America, at least that major portion of it which frowns upon the taking of justice into the hands of private citizens with its attendant danger of mistake and its menace to the process of law, does not wish to be a horrible example to be pointed at by the other nations of the world.

Lynching must be stopped. Just as slavery was a blot upon our escutcheon sixty years ago so is any practise of organized violence today. It is a national duty to stamp out such conditions.

The decision of the Supreme Court in the child labor case and the action of the Senate subcommittee on the lynching bill have the sole advantage of showing a better tendency to recognize the sovereign rights of the States than has been shown by much of the legislation that has recently succeeded in Congress. The relation of the States to the Federal Government is rather conveniently ignored in the case of legislation like that of the maternity bill and other measures that involve taxing certain States to finance others.

In such cases the Southern States are more anxious than others to get money from the Federal Treasury collected mainly from other States. They rally to such legislation with many professions of concern in the welfare of the whole country.

But when it comes to a law to prevent Southern taskmasters from working children in the mills, or to a law to prevent Southern white mobs from lynching suspected Negroes, there is nobody on earth who can howl louder for the Constitution than a Southern representative in Congress.

PITTSBURG PA. DISPATCH
MAY 30 1922

Can't Enforce the Laws

Nine lynchings in Texas within three weeks is a record that has reacted upon all but the lower types of mob material in that State, and brought out calls for a revised policy. Of the nine victims of murderous frenzy two are known now to have been innocent, and at least two others are quite certain to be found innocent with doubt and unknown causes clinging to some of the others. Governor Neff has issued a statement in which the mob spirit is deplored, and expressing the hope that the Legislature will provide a law that will permit members of mobs to be pursued and punished.

His idea is that it is useless to go to the trouble and expense of giving trial to lynchers since it is impossible to convict a mobber in his own community. The Governor suggests that if the Legislature supplies a law that will allow lynchers to be tried in counties other than that in which the lynching took place it might be possible to convict and check the lynching spirit. It is humiliating to honest Americans to hear the Governor of a great State confess that its laws cannot prevent open public murders in the presence of whole communities.

SPRINGFIELD M MORN UNION
JUNE 24, 1922

Texas, scene of recent lynching atrocities must yield first place in brutal lawlessness to Illinois. Even the crimes of the Russian Bolsheviki, in the hey-day of their carnival of murder, failed to equal the bloodthirstiness and brutality witnessed and described by the Associated Press correspondent at Herrin, Ill. It would be an insult to four-footed creatures to designate the mob of 5000 coal miners and their wives, who participated in the shameless massacre, as beasts. These men and women have placed themselves on a lower scale than anything in the brute creation. It is no longer possible to point the finger of scorn at Soviet Russia. Thanks to the coal miners of Williamson County, the United States has something worse to answer for. The shame does not rest on Illinois alone; it is a national disgrace. And if Illinois does not act promptly to bring the murderous fiends to justice, it is the duty of the Federal Government to step in and do it.

SPRINGFIELD MASS EVE UNION
JULY 18, 1922

The Lynching Stigma

Southern Senators are indignant over what they choose to term the "stigma" placed upon their constituencies by efforts to have a Federal law against lynching passed. They claim, and with some justice, that nothing worse than the Herrin massacre has been perpetrated against the Negroes of the South and that the better element in the Southern districts deplores lynchings most heartily.

Comparison with Herrin is not a very strong defense. That the North sins occasionally is no excuse for continued sinning below the Mason and Dixon line. Moreover, it begins to look as if justice will eventually be done at Herrin, for the Attorney General of Illinois is at present conducting an investigation in Williamson county and promises to produce results. The lynchings themselves and not Federal notice and action constitute the stigma. There is no quarrel with the better element in the South. The law-abiding people there undoubtedly deplore lynchings. The thing for them to do is to stop them. Then the Federal Government would not be compelled to act.

Lynchings — 1922.
Discussions.

White Press (Michigan)

990

DETROIT MICH. FREE PRESS
MAY 31, 1922

LYNCHING UNREBUKED AND UNCHECKED.

Within twenty-two days in this fair month of May nine Negroes were lynched by being burned, shot or hanged in Texas, and a tenth was shot to death and his body burned by a mob composed of both Texans and Arkansans. These proceedings were public and open. No masks were worn. Nobody attempted to hide his or her part in the fearful outrages. The people seemed to delight in savagery of a sort that might have taught even a band of bolshevist "executioners" something. And in one case at least, that of a man who was shot to death in Waco, the body being afterward publicly burned in the public square, it is now generally admitted that the victim was innocent of the offense of which he was accused. How many others of the dead were guiltless of wrong doing will probably not be learned.

Although all the facts in connection with these crimes by the populace are well known, and although in several instances the names of the ring leaders and immediate assassins have appeared in public print, nothing has been done by the state government. In reply to protests from the decent people of Texas, Governor Neff has merely issued a statement deploring the mob spirit, and suggesting that the legislature pass a law providing for the trial of people accused of mob violence in a county other than the one in which the outrage occurs. As lynching seems to be a pretty universally diffused diversion in the state, this sort of talk is worse than absurd. It amounts to an admission by the governor that he does not see his way clear to take any action; and it is a notice to the lawless that they can go ahead and torture and murder to their hearts' content.

But Governor Neff's statement means more even than this. It is a confession that the state government in Texas has broken down and is no longer able to enforce the laws or protect citizens, and that lynching never will be suppressed except through some sort of federal intervention. There is something in this which demands notice and action from both the executive and legislative departments in Washington.

Lynchings – 1922 Discussions 9(a) White Press (Missouri) 984

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATCH
MAY 7, 1922

THE TEXAS LYNCHING.

The plea offered in extenuation of the burning of three negroes by a mob at Kerwin, Tex., is the shocking crime committed on a young girl. There can be no extenuation of the crime. It was horrible, and the very horror of it wins public sympathy for the mob and tends to mitigate its offense.

One horrible crime, however, does not justify another. No punishment is too severe for the perpetrators of a crime like that, but the question of the supremacy of law takes precedence over all others. The law gives every man accused of crime the right of fair trial and it is only through the processes of law that guilt can be established and execution of the guilty justified.

The breaking down of these processes of law by a mob strikes at the foundations of law and order and civilization.

It is necessary for the State of Texas to vindicate its laws and to establish law supremacy by enforcing the laws against the mob. There was a protest throughout the South at the Federal antilynching bill which passed the House of Representatives and which put in the hands of the Federal authorities the power to punish mobs and counties in which lynchings occur. The protest was sound, but an evident corollary of the protest is the exercise by state authorities of the power to protect accused persons from mobs, to punish the perpetrators of crimes and to punish those who resort to lynching.

The states must undertake their full duties and responsibilities in the matter of enforcing law against brutal criminals and law-breaking mobs if they are to prevent Federal encroachment upon their rights and powers. The greatest crime in the calendar is to break down the safeguards of law and order and thus set up lawless violence in place of lawful processes. No state can stand for this crime against all the people.

JOPLIN MO. NEWS HERALD
SEPTEMBER 12, 1922

DO NOT CONDONE LYNCHINGS

Claim has sometimes been made that Christian people in the south condone lynchings under certain circumstances. The Georgia Inter-racial Committee recently passed this resolution:

"We find in our hearts no extenuation for crime, be it violation of womanhood, mob violence or the illegal taking of human life. We are convinced that if there is any crime more dangerous than another it is that crime which strikes at the root of and undermines constituted authority, breaks all laws and restraints of civilization, substitutes mob violence and masked irresponsibility for established justice and deprives society of a sense of protection against barbarism. Therefore, we believe that no falser appeal can be made to Southern manhood than that mob violence is necessary for the protection of womanhood, or that the brutal practice of lynching and burning of human beings is an expression of chivalry. We believe that these methods are no protection to anything or anybody, but that they jeopardize every right and every security that we possess."

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussion.

New Jersey (White Press)

992

TRENTON N J ADVERTISER
JULY 9, 1922

MURDEROUS MOB RULE

A correspondent in another column of today's issue makes pertinent reference to the vigor of the country-wide protest against inhuman treatment of strike-breaking white miners in the West, as contrasted with the indifference with which Americans in large numbers hear of brutal outrages against negroes in the South. One explanation may be that in the latter case the illegal killings occur spasmodically and do not attract the same attention as a wholesale slaughter such as has just excited the country to fever heat.

As a matter of fact, there were 64 lynchings in the Southern States last year, a gruesome total indeed. Of these fifty-eight victims were negroes, Georgia leading with fourteen and Mississippi a close second with thirteen. Of the victims thirty-two were hanged, seventeen were shot, four were burned to death and two were drowned. Methods in the other cases have not been reported. Thirty-two persons were taken from jail to satisfy popular vengeance.

It is a shameful thing that American communities in the South should yield to passion for the punishment of crime when courts exist for an orderly trial and when there is little doubt that, if properly convicted, the murderers would undergo the death penalty. Where mob rule controls, it happens not infrequently that subsequent developments prove the unfortunate victim to have been innocent.

The outrages in the West and the South are not parallel, of course, for various reasons, but our correspondent is not without justification for seizing the opportunity to attempt to arouse public feeling against lynching as well as against other murderous crimes.

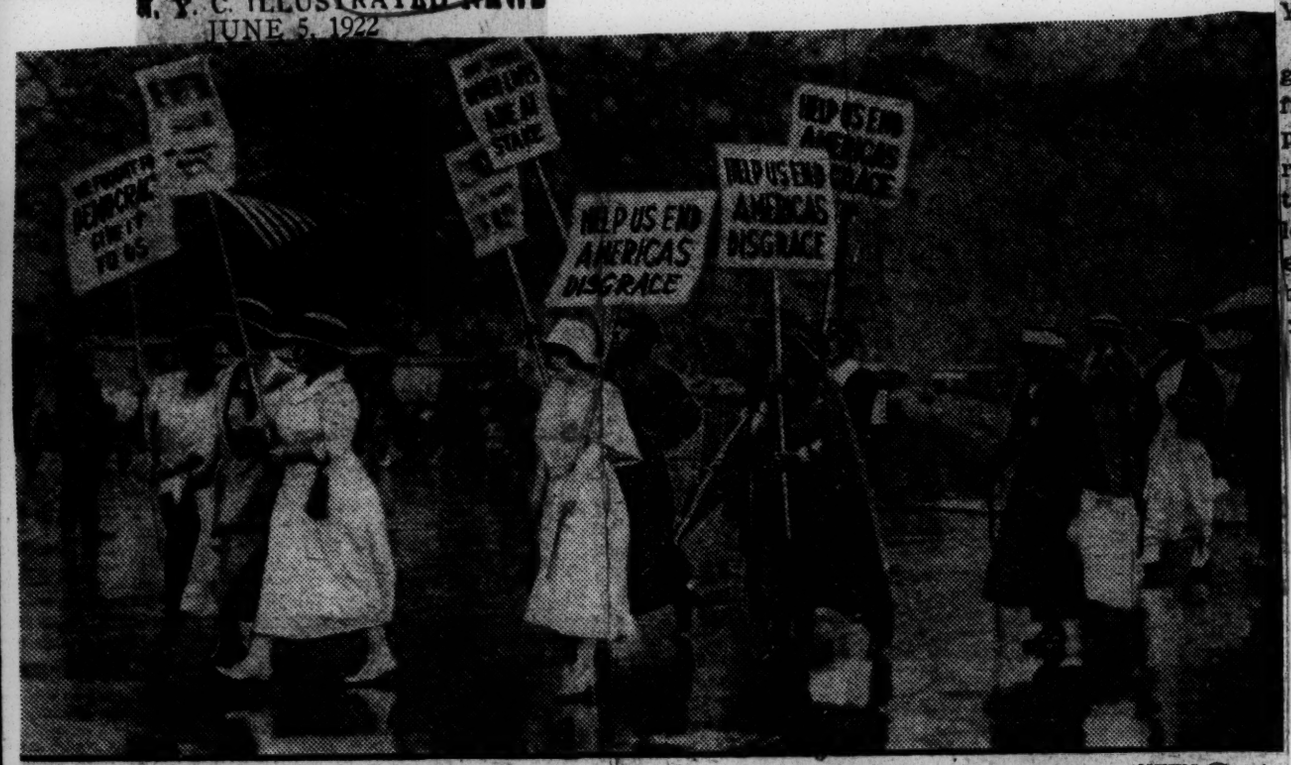
Lynchings — 1922. White Press. (New York). 993

Discussion.

MT VERNON N Y ARGUS
MAY 9, 1922

Three Negroes Burned at the Stake in Texas—Argus headline. Oh thunder! What a lawless country Mexico is.

N. Y. C. ILLUSTRATED NEWS
JUNE 5, 1922



(NEWS Photo)

PROTEST LYNCHING.—Rain Saturday dwindled the parade of New York Negroes in protest against lynching from the promised 4,000 to about 600, but the parade made up in enthusiasm what it lost in numbers. Photo shows some of the banners.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
MAY 8, 1922

AN ANTI-LYNCHING LAW NEEDED.

The triple lynching in Kirvin, Texas, on Saturday is an excellent illustration of the need of a federal anti-lynching law. Of the three men burned, one is said to have confessed to an unspeakable crime and in his confession to have implicated two other Negroes. "There was some delay," said the despatch describing the tragedy, "in burning the last two, inasmuch as they steadfastly maintained their innocence. Third degree methods failed to bring a confession from them and they were finally cremated on the strength of Curry's testimony." To put the case more plainly, the mob had its blood up, and, having tortured one human being to death, was not to be denied the exquisite pleasure of torturing two others.

If the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which passed the House of Representatives last January, were a law, the federal government would bring felony charges in this case against all members of the mob who could be identified and against the officials who gave up their prisoners. The family of each of the victims, moreover, would be entitled to recover damages of $10,000 through the federal courts from the county in which the lynching took place. The Dyer bill lays it down that the right of a citizen of the United States to a legal trial are not to be denied him at the whim of any mob or because of the customs of any community.

The time is coming when the lynching communities must civilize themselves or be held within the limits of civilization by outside authority. The prohibition of intoxicating liquors is being enforced by national police in communities which are not in favor of it; there is at least as much logic for national enforcement of the law against mass murder.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
MAY 20, 1922

THE LYNCHING SEASON.

While the federal anti-lynching bill halts in its passage the American pastime of torturing human beings to death continues to be practised, largely in the southern states. A few days ago even southerners were startled by the burning of three Negroes in Louisiana, of whom one may have been guilty of the offense charged, and on Thursday night a fifteen-year-old Negro boy was tortured and burned near Davisboro, Ga.

The latter incident shows lynching in what might be called its most favorable aspect, for there appears to have been conclusive evidence that the victim was guilty of a barbarous murder. But even here a moment's reflection will show that the murderer was punished, not for his immediate crime, but for being black. If any white man has been burned at the stake in any American state since the civil war the case has not made its way into print.

White men may commit any of the crimes for which Negroes are burned without risking this particularly fiendish retaliation. Lynching is a race crime; it is the ritual by which the white race signifies its intention to deprive the black man of the rights and privileges which under the federal constitution are guaranteed to every American citizen. Such an atrocity is an insult to every American citizen, whether he lives in New York or Kansas or Virginia.

The irony of the situation under which the federal government is able to prevent citizens of the states from drinking beer containing more than one-half of 1 per cent. of alcohol but cannot prevent them from roasting their fellow citizens—for such, by constitutional enactment the Negroes are—is too great to be long endured. The great majority of decent southerners have spoken against this crime, but their protest has been rendered ineffective by the very fact that they condone the system of oppression of which lynching is the logical expression.

The federal government apparently cannot set free the Negroes of Georgia and Mississippi, but it can and should see to it that they are protected in life and limb. Until that is done, agitation over the safety of our citizens in Mexico and other outlying regions will seem to most black men and to many white a mockery.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRESS
MAY 8, 1922

The Texas Lynching.

Again is Texas disgraced by the savagery of some of its people. The burning of three negroes at the stake at Kirvin on Saturday morning by a mob of 500 men is but another bit of evidence that the law does not rule in Texas. The Ku Klux outrages of last fall and winter and other lynchings, together with the lawlessness rampant for some time at Mexia, show that the Lone Star state has far to go before reaching civilization. In the face of these outrages, its cattle thronged prairies, its fertile fields, its spouters gushing oil by the thousands of barrels, its railways and towns, with their banks and churches, mean little as evidence of civilized feeling among its people. In this case, the guilt of two of the victims of the fiends that murdered them was not certain. The two denied their guilt, of which the mob had no further proof than the word of the third, who had confessed the crime for which they were lynched. But the mob sought blood. It had the negroes in their power. What matters a life or two if only the bloodlust is satisfied? So they went to a death, to a cruel death that none but a diabolical savage mind could conceive.

Poor Texas!

N. Y. C. GLOBE
MAY 25, 1922

THE LYNCHING BILL.

A veritable epidemic of lynching has spread out certain southern states. Since May 6 eight have been lynched in Texas, and Tuesday a Ge

PEN YAN N. Y. EXPRESS
JULY 12, 1922

LYNCHINGS.

Well authenticated statistics in regard to lynching in the South, which has long been a blistering disgrace to this country, as well as a sad commentary on our boasted civilization, are far from encouraging, as they do not show a diminution in the number, or abandonment of the fiendish accompaniments of burnings at the stake.

No other country would tolerate such a condition, and that this country has so long tolerated it has astonished and horrified even semi-civilized peoples.

The atrocities of the Turks inflicted upon the Armenians are not in the same class, but, unaccountably, they shock people in this country, who are apparently, indifferent as to the more horrible features of lynchings, etc., in our own land.

Efforts at the humane uplifting of the Southern people who uphold such barabarities have proved to be a dismal failure. It is evident, therefore, that only drastic remedies will effect a cure or improvement.

There is a bill before Congress which would, if enacted, probably strike at the root of the evil, as by fines, imprisonment, etc., it would be an effective deterrent to hellions, cowardly officials, etc.

But it may not become a law. The Democrats, of course, oppose it, and there are some Republicans who do likewise, claiming that the proposed measure would be unconstitutional.

The Republicans have large majorities in both houses and if they shall fail to enact the bill, leaving the Courts to pass upon its constitutionality, upon the Republican party will rest the responsibility for such violation of manifest duty to civilization and humanity.

surrounded a swamp in the effort to capture a fugitive Negro. No other nation which lays any claim to civilization indulges in such frantic exhibitions of primitive savagery. The phenomenon, however, is not peculiarly southern. Illinois is as bad as Texas, and Pennsylvania is not better than Virginia. It is a problem of race relations, and decent public sentiment in many southern states is opposed to insane manifestations of fear and cruelty in dealing with Negro offenders just as similar men and women disapprove mob violence in the north. The outrageous fact is, however, that in both regions feeble public officials condone the acts of the worst elements.

Governor Pat M. Neff of Texas seems to be such a creature. When asked whether he contemplated doing anything to bring to justice mobs which murdered eight Negroes he said that he had no statement to make. It is difficult to conceive a more cowardly attitude. If Mexico or any lesser country had indulged in violence to the degree permitted in Texas and at least condoned in silence, if not actually approved by the governor, intervention and war would be imminent. Texas is guilty of the same kind of excesses as is the Turk, and for much the same reason—race prejudice. Yet most Texans regard the Turks as a very cruel people!

The anti-lynching bill, which has passed the House is now pending in the Senate. A determined effort is being made by those senators who expect to appeal to Negro constituents in the autumn to obtain a floor debate upon the bill. On the other hand, Senator Borah and others whose opinions on matters of constitutional law are worthy of consideration now state that the present bill is unconstitutional. If that is true the bill ought to be redrafted and, if possible, the constitutional objections ought to be removed. It is useless to give vent to a heroic legislative gesture by passing a doomed measure. It ought, however, to be possible to devise some legal means of compelling barbarous communities in the American nation to observe the common decencies of the law. That is the immediate problem.

N. Y. C. LESLIE'S
MAY 27, 1922

Two Lynchings

ONE was public; the other private. In Texas a mob took the law into its own hands and ferociously slaughtered three negroes, without giving them a chance to prove their innocence. In New York City a young man took the law into his own hands and, deliberately seeking out a former friend, shot him to death because, he alleged, the victim had beaten the slayer's mother. No opportunity was afforded the accused of defending or exonerating himself; he was tried, found guilty, and executed by lynch law applied at the hands of an individual who set himself, for purposes of vengeance, above the law of the land. Thus far there is little to choose between the two lynchings. But here a divergence appears. The Texas murderers are at large; it is doubtful whether any real effort will be made to bring them to justice. The New York slayer was tried before a typical sob jury and acquitted in a scene of sickening sentimentalism. Rightly estimated that verdict constitutes a graver menace to law and order than the action of any mob that ever hanged or burned a negro. It was considered and deliberate and it strikes at the very roots of justice. In the comparison New York makes a sorrier showing than Texas.

ROCHESTER N Y CHRONICLE
MAY 24, 1922

If things keep on there will be an open season for lynchers in this country as well as for lynching. It might as well be understood that there is a limit beyond which the atrocities in the "Black Belt" cannot go; and six lynchings in a month is crowding that limit.

N Y C WORLD
MAY 8, 1922

THE TEXAS LYNCHING.

The lynching of three Negroes by a mob of 500 men at Kirvin leaves Texas no defense. It was not only a deliberate crime, it was plain barbarism. There will be, of course, the usual efforts to excuse the people of Kirvin for burning the Negroes at the stake by pleading that in the circumstances they were excusable. Mob murder cannot be justified.

But in the end, what will the community of Kirvin do for the vindication of the law? Will it shield the leaders in the perpetration of this horror and save them from punishment? It must know that tolerance of lynching breeds lawlessness, and that by it Texas stands disgraced in the eyes of the world.

N Y C WORLD
JUNE 23, 1922

19 NEGRO BISHOPS DEPLORE LYNCHING

Blot on Our Country, Says One at African Methodist Church Session.

The Bishops' Council of the African Methodist Church is in session at Bethel A. M. E. Church, No. 52 West 132d Street. The council brings together all the Bishops, general officers and several hundred of the leading ministers and laymen from all sections of the United States, Canada, South and West Africa, the West Indies and South America.

The following constitute the Board of Bishops: Bishops B. T. Tanner, Philadelphia (retired); B.F. Lee, Wilberfore, O.; C. S. Smith, Detroit, Mich.; L. J. Coppin, Philadelphia; H. B. Parks, Chicago; J. S. Flipper, Atlanta, Ga.; J. A. Johnson, Philadelphia; W. H. Heard, Philadelphia; John Hurst, Baltimore, Md.; William D. Chappelle, Columbia, S. C.; Joshua H. Jones, Wilberforce, O.; J. M. Conner, Little Rock, Ark.; W. W. Beckett, Brooklyn; I. N. Ross, Washington, D. C.; William D. Johnson, Plains, Ga.; A. J. Carey, Chicago; W. Samson Brooks, Monrovia, Liberia, West Africa; W. T. Vernon, Cape Town, South Africa, and William A. Fountain, Atlanta, Ga.

These Bishops preside over and have charge of the eighty annual conferences of the church. The African Methodist Episcopal Church is composed entirely of Negroes.

The Council opened yesterday morning with religious services, peculiar to the church, by the singing of old-fashioned hymns, &c. The sermon was preached by Bishop I. N. Ross of Washington, D. C., who said, in part:

"The most far reaching and absorbing problem of all the ages has been the finding of a proper man to lead in the plans of God Almighty in the world. Christianity, and Christianity alone, will solve earth's problems. Corruption in politics, economic inequalities, the great crime wave in the country, and lynching, which is the foul blot on our country, will all vanish under the shadow of the cross and in the presence of real Christian and righteous endeavor."

The Council in resolutions deplored mob violence and urged Negroes to vote against statesmen who have opposed a Federal law against lynching.

The Bishops will hold sessions morning and afternoon to-day and to-morrow.

N Y C CALL
JULY 9, 1922

The American Lyncher

So far as we can learn, the appalling crimes committed by the lynchers in this country are committed not by men of foreign birth or extraction, but by men wholly of American origin and boasting their lineage from American citizens. The deeds of which these savages are guilty are often so horrible that one dare not describe them in print. To drag their victims through the streets till the life has been pounded out of them, to saturate them with oil and burn them at the stake—these are some of the minor cruelties inflicted upon American citizens by their sub-brutal fellows. Every one of these mob-tortured men the Government of the United States has the right to call to the defense of the nation's flag. Every one of them, therefore, should be guaranteed his rights as an American citizen by the Federal government. If Congress fails to pass the anti-lynching bill, we all become participes criminis in this shameful evil that disgraces the nation.—Our Dumb Animals.

Lynchings - 1922
Discussions

White Press (New York.)

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N. Y. C. TRIBUNE
JANUARY 10, 1922

Contrasts in Homicides

Current statistics show extraordinary variations in the numbers of homicides in the chief cities and a remarkable parallel between the numbers of homicides and the numbers of lynchings.

Thus, in Atlanta in 1920 lynchings were at the ratio of 40.9 to the 100,000 population, and in Savannah they were at the rate of 44 to the 100,000, and in Georgia in the last thirty-five years there were 528 lynchings. In Charleston homicides were at the rate of 36.5, and there were 121 lynchings in South Carolina. Memphis had 63.4 homicides to the 100,000 and Tennessee a total of 198 lynchings. In New Orleans the homicide rate was 16.9 and in Louisiana the number of lynchings was 289.

On the other hand, in Baltimore the homicide rate was only 7 to the 100,000, and the number of lynchings in Maryland was only 23. Cincinnati had 5.7 homicides and Ohio had 20 lynchings. Milwaukee had a homicide rate of 3 and Wisconsin had only 5 lynchings. San Francisco's homicide rate was 7.6 and California's lynchings were 33. In New York City homicides in 1920 were 5.9 to the 100,000, and in New York State in thirty-five years there were only 2 lynchings. In Philadelphia the homicides were 6.2 and in Pennsylvania the lynchings were only 6. In Boston the homicide rate was 5.1 and Massachusetts had not a single lynching.

In the face of such figures it is impossible to ignore a very direct relationship between the lynching habit and the commission of homicide. New York City has a mixed and largely turbulent population, and has more homicides than it should have. Yet it has in proportion to its population only about one-seventh as many as Atlanta. And in New York State there have been only two lynchings in thirty-five years, while in Georgia, with a far smaller population, there have been 528. Such a contrast explodes the claim that lynching is a crime deterrent.

UTICA N Y DISPATCH
JANUARY 13, 1922

MOBS.

A check-up shows that 3,436 victims have been lynched by mobs since 1899. Only [illegible] of them were accused of assaulting women. Lynched victims included 64 women.

Mob rule is government by minority—the very thing our republic was founded to avoid.

N. Y. C. SUN
MAY 31, 1922

Texas Law.

In Texas ten negroes have been burned, shot or hanged illegally within three weeks.

In Waco, after a negro had been put to death by a mob, evidence appeared indicating that he was innocent. Dispatches say the town now inclines to believe he was. An unfortunate mistake but one bound to happen occasionally in such cases! Worse than the injustice to the victim, in such a case, is perhaps the brutalizing effect on the perpetrators.

The Governor suggests a law compelling the trial of lynchers in counties other than the ones where they commit the offenses, and if some counties are better than others in their attitude toward lynchings this plan may merit consideration. One doubts whether it would have much effect.

There exists, however, a growing and sturdy opposition to the racial mob outbreaks of what are usually but a minority class.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
MAY 28, 1922

We imagine the Georgia negro who escaped lynchers by a miracle is not enjoying peace of mind in a Macon jail. Peace of mind doesn't come from a mere postponement of the obsequies.

WATERTOWN N Y STANDARD
MAY 9, 1922

ROCKING THE FOUNDATION OF CIVILIZATION

If the three negroes burned at the stake in Texas Friday night were guilty of assaulting and murdering a 17-year-old white girl—and there seems to be no allegation of innocence of the crime charged—they deserved to pay the death penalty.

But no matter how heinous the crime no man should be put to death by mobs in this country in this age. No matter how brutal the assault and how awful the murder substitution of the rule of the mob for the orderly processes of the law is not to be condoned.

When society is unorganized and there is no law have the law of might, mob punishment is the only way. That is the rule of jungle. Even savages and semi-savages have their crude courts where men are given a chance. But in a civilized country like the United States, where courts are efficient and while sometimes grinding exceedingly slow, yet do grind exceedingly fine, the safety of society rests on respect for established institutions, especially the courts. Take away from America her courts and nothing would remain but lawlessness and savagry, wherein there could be no rule but the rule of might and passion.

Courts are designed to protect individuals and society. They are the institutions that mark a development from barbarity into civilization. They are institutions that indicate the substitution of reason and justice for passion.

No matter how guilty the three negroes may have been, the mob that burned them at the stake should be sought out and punished to the full extent of the law. Lynching is a great blot on this so-called Christian nation.

N. Y. C.
MAY 21 1922

Judge Lynch.

Down in Texas three colored citizens of the United States have been burned alive at the stake. They were accused of attacking and killing a white girl, and there is no reason to doubt that the law, if left to take its course, would have condemned them swiftly to a final punishment. To lynch them did not make their fate more certain. There was no chance of their escaping a just and severe verdict.

To burn these men alive has been to associate them with the death of some noblest martyrs. Condemnation of their crime is weakened by horror over a retribution more spectacular and sensational than the original tragedy. Throughout the world the press will publish not the outrage to the girl but the sequel to it. And the good name of the United States will suffer.

The lynchers honestly believe that by such terrorism they are protecting their white women. From the reports, it seems as if the burnings took place under the very shadow of certain churches. We are here discussing, then, a curious kind of brainstorm which seizes communities and drives otherwise law-abiding persons beyond control. What is the remedy?

Federal justice? If it can be made applicable, yes. But even federal justice, like State justice, may be anticipated by lynch law. What needs to be changed is the mind. And the method is surely simple.

We subscribe to missions which help the negro in Africa. Let us train and uplift the negroes in our midst. Great colleges like Hampton and Tuskegee do not cover the whole field. They have shown the way. Let others be built on the same lines.

Above all, let the joint committees of whites and negroes in the South be multiplied and let their scope be extended. It is by such co-operation between the races that outbreaks of lynching are forestalled. Violence is no cure for violence. Evil is no antidote for evil. If evil is to be overcome it must be by substituting the good.

UTICA N Y DISPATCH
MAY 8, 1922

Lawlessness Heaped on Law Breaking.

Up from Texas come the revolting details of the burning of three negroes for the alleged assault and murder of a young white girl.

Hardly an editor in the North but has denounced in strongest terms this form of lawlessness on the part of white citizens of the South. Also it has been condemned by the South itself. But the thing continues.

Lynchers have made many mistakes and more than one innocent man has hung from a tree or burned at the stake because a citizen mob was hasty in judgment. In this instance in Texas it is reported that two white men are held on evidence which seems to link them with the death of the girl, while two of the lynched men were not connected with the crime except by the alleged confession of the third.

May the day come when to lynch will as surely invite legal punishment as it now does in the North to murder deliberately. When that day does dawn lynching will be replaced by orderly, speedy trial of accused blacks, and justice will be done.

N Y EVE WORLD
MAY 29, 1922

WORK FOR THE RANGERS.

TIME was when "Texas Ranger" was a name to conjure with. The organization was practically on a par with the Canadian Northwestern Mounted Police. A Ranger "got his man." If a criminal "got" a Ranger, it was the worse for the criminal, because the other Rangers took up the case in earnest. Justice as administered by the Rangers was implacable and grim.

The Rangers were formerly the ostensible model of most of the other State constabulary organizations. But there is evidence that the Ranger organization has declined of late years. If it had not, the State of Texas would not have been disgraced by so many recent lynchings.

Saturday it was reported from Waco, Tex., that the Rangers had been called to prevent a threatened outbreak of Negroes. This is a wise precaution, but it should not stop with protecting whites against blacks. The Rangers should be used to protect accused Negroes from mobs. Rangers could furnish better protection than Sheriffs and deputies.

The Texas lynching record demands a renewed strengthening of the Rangers for just such work.

N Y C EVE WORLD
MAY 8, 1922

TEXAS ON TRIAL.

TEXAS is now on trial before the United States. Saturday's lynch-law burning of three Negroes charged with a revolting crime puts the brand on the whole State.

The authorities did not do their duty in protecting the prisoners. Will the State do its duty in punishing the recreant officials and the members of the mob?

The offense charged against the Negroes was heinous. All the more reason for fair trial and quick punishment at the hands of the law—always providing the men were proved guilty.

As so frequently happens, later news reports seem to cast doubt on the "confession" wrung from one of the dead blacks. Two white men are held in jail in connection with the murder. This suggests that the mob may have made a mistake—a mistake that cannot be rectified.

The South does not want a Federal police to prevent and punish lynching. Nor does the rest of the country. But that is what is certain to come unless Texas and the other States disprove the need.

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE
MAY 8, 1922

BURNING-AT-STAKE A SPECTACLE.

Even the cannibal tribes kill human beings before roasting them. Burning-at-the-stake as a spectacle has fallen into disrepute since the glorious days of Nero's amphitheaters. It is unknown in the Turkish Empire, even in wildest Albania, Canada, a less developed country at our north, has never seen it since the time when Red Indians tortured Jesuit missionaries. Only in the United States of America, in the very shadow of court-houses and churches and hospitals, does the old idea of an exciting popular entertainment attach to the cremation of live human beings.

Three negroes were burned in this way to the great delectation of 500 Caucasians in Kirvin, Texas. The victims had been accused by some one of being "implicated" in the outraging and killing of a white woman. Of course every intelligent student of criminology knows that murder as an incident of outrage is not a crime of conspiracy but a crime of individual passion. So the assumption that the three men were guilty is an affront to the intelligence of news readers. The victims were negroes. That was enough for any Texas mob.

A bill is still pending in Congress to make such mob murders an offense against United States law, punishable in United States courts, and to fine the county in which any such killing is done $5,000 for the benefit of the family of the person killed. The measure may or may not be wise. An incident like the one at Kirvin ought to assist, however, in making it a law.

Negroes everywhere have a right to be indignant. But the planters of Texas are likely to have a reason of their own for regretting what is tolerated in that State. As The Eagle has before pointed out, whatever the degree of suppression of the colored people in the Cotton States, the old slavery era machinery for preventing them from running away is not in existence. Crop raisers who want a stable labor market have a strong interest in preventing all lynchings, even the less barbarous ones. Decency toward the negroes is for them, like honesty, the best policy. They might wisely insist on some mild punishment, say a few months in a comfortable jail for the ringleaders of that Kirvin mob. Perhaps they will. The execution of the mob murderers is certainly not expected, in view of all past history.

NEW YORK HERALD
MAY 29, 1922

KLAN RULES REVISED AS LYNCHINGS GROW

Nine Negroes Were Killed in Texas Within Last Three Weeks.

WHIPPING IS STOPPED

Practice No Longer Is Sanctioned by Ku Klux Members.

'ANTIS' NOW ORGANIZED

Former Attorney-General of State Is Head of the New Association.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

AUSTIN, Tex., May 28.—Since May 6 nine negroes have been burned, shot or hanged by unmasked bands of white men in Texas. A tenth was accused of the murder of R. C. Choate, a policeman of Texarkana, Ark., just across the State line. He was captured by a mob from the two States and, after his body had been riddled with bullets, it was publicly burned.

Although there is no evidence that the Ku Klux Klan had any part in the recent lynchings there has been a marked revision of the rules governing the operations of the Klan and whipping of offenders no longer is sanctioned.

In Dallas an anti-Ku Klux organization was formed recently with M. M. Crane, former Attorney-General of the State, as chairman.

This outbreak of lynchings had its beginning on the night of May 6, when three negroes were burned to death in the town of Kirvin for murdering Miss Eula Awsley, 17, a school girl. At intervals of every few days there have been mob uprisings.

Girl's Father Kills Negro.

The latest of the manifestations of lawlessness occurred on the night of May 26, when Jesse Thomas, a twenty-three-year-old negro of Waco, was taken in charge by a mob and accused of murdering Harry Bolton and then attacking Mrs. Margaret Hays, who was riding with Bolton in an automobile near Waco.

Thomas was confronted by the young woman in the presence of the mob, and she identified him as the man who attacked her. Then Sam Harris, her father, shot and killed Thomas.

The negro's body was taken to an undertaker's establishment, but the mob recovered and burned it upon the public square in the presence of several thousand persons.

When the mob had dispersed it was declared the negro was not guilty. His relatives insist he was at home on the night of the crime. It is stated that Waco is inclined to accept the proof offered of Thomas's innocence. At any rate five ohter negro suspects have been arrested and are in jail there with proof of guilt pointing to one of them. Harris, who killed Thomas, offered to give himself up, but was told that no warrant had been issued for him.

Snap Curry, Mose Jones and John Cornish, negroes who were burned alive at Kirvin, were employed as farm hands on the plantation of the girl's grandfather. It is asserted that Curry confessed and implicated the other two negroes in the crime. Curry's body was mutilated before it was burned. His death was witnessed by the other two negroes who were burned at a similar fate. In the catalogue of the crowd that witnessed the burning of the negroes stood Shardich Green, a negro farmer of the community. He was heard to condemn the action of the mob. A day later Green's body was found hanging to the limb of a tree near Kirvin.

Two Others Hanged.

On May 17 a young white woman of Plantersville was attacked. The authorities arrested a negro, Tom Early, for the crime. As soon as the news spread a mob of 300 white men was formed and Early was taken out of jail and hanged.

Three days after the lynching of Early another mob hanged Mose Brozier at Alleyton, accused of attacking a twelve-year-old white girl.

At Conroe a negro named Joe Winters was arrested on the charge of attacking a white woman. He was captured by a mob, taken to the court house yard, chained to the iron fence, a funeral pyre built around him, and burned to death on May 19 in the presence of hundreds. It is asserted he confessed.

Farmers near Bryan accused a negro of having poisoned their cattle. On May 23 a mob tied the negro, named Roysen, to the end of a rope and dragged him to death.

Not a member of the various mobs has been arrested. Gov. Neff sent Rangers to Kirvin and Waco, but they did not reach the town until after the excitement was over. At Waco the Rangers still are guarding the jail.

The citizenship of the State is aroused over the unprecedented outbreaks of mobs and Gov. Neff has been urged to take action. He has issued a statement in which he deplores the mob spirit. He points out that good would be accomplished if the Legislature would pass a law providing for the trial of persons accused of mob violence in a county other than the one in which the lynching occurred. It is regarded as useless to arrest or attempt to convict a member of a mob in his own community.

N Y C TIMES
JUNE 15, 1922

SILENT NEGROES MARCH IN LYNCHING PROTEST

Several Thousand Parade in Washington in Effort to Promote Dyer Bill Action.

WASHINGTON, June 14.—A "silent parade" was staged today by the negro population of Washington as a protest against continued lynchings of members of their race and in an effort to promote early action by Congress on the Dyer anti-lynching bill now before the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The absence of bands lent additional impressiveness to the demonstration. Several thousands were in the long line which was topped by scores of posters and streamers setting forth details of recent lynchings which were said to have set a new record in May.

Men and women representatives of every profession in which the negro has achieved success were included among the marchers, as were also delegations from various negro fraternal and civic organizations. A group of boys bore a sign which read:

"We Are Fifteen Years Old: One of Our Age Was Roasted Alive."

Another sign declared:

"Congress Discusses Constitutionality While the Smoke of Burning Bodies Darkens the Heavens."

The route of the parade was around the Capitol grounds, through Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House to Seventeenth Street. The marchers disbanded at the end of the march s silently as they had traversed the streets.

Lynchings - 1922. Discussion.

New York, (White press).

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UTICA N Y GLOBE
JUNE 10, 1922

OUR NATIONAL BLOT

Georgia has need to look out for its laurels. It long has been pre-eminent for its lynching record, but now seems in danger of losing this "distinction" to Texas. Within a period of three weeks 10 negroes have been executed by the mob in the Lone Star State, some of them being burned at the stake, and while Georgia was by no means idle during the time, it was greatly outdistanced by its rival in the race for lawlessness. In 1920 Texas led Georgia slightly, the number of lynchings in the latter being nine and in the former 10, but in the preceding year while the Georgia mob executed 21 blacks, the "leading citizens" of Texas disposed of only 4.

In the 35 years from 1885 to 1920, inclusive, the 15 southern, or border States, lynched 3,019 persons. In this melancholy list of infamy Georgia stands well to the fore, with a total of 528 to its credit. Mississippi ranks next, with an even 400 and Texas comes third, with 304. The record in the entire country during the period is 3,403 lynchings, and only six States—Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Utah and Vermont—were exempt from this barbaric blot. Even New York had two lynchings in the period—one in 1892 and the other in 1896.

Recently a bill known as the Dyer anti-lynching bill passed the House of Representatives and is now before the Senate. But the bill is considered unconstitutional by the members of the judiciary committee and because of that there is no prospect of its passing. Senator Borah pronounces the measure "absolutely unconstitutional," in the light of decisions handed down by the Supreme Court.

The Senate, however, is aroused over the lynching issue. Negro organizations are insistent that some action be taken and senators who face election in the fall, particularly in States where there is a strong negro vote, are anxious that an anti-lynching measure be discussed on the floor, in order to placate the negroes, no matter whether the matter goes any further. Lodge is one of these, for the negro vote in Massachusetts is considerable and Lodge has the supreme fight of his life on his hands this year. It is said that not only Massachusetts, but Ohio, Indiana and other States, where negroes have settled thickly since the opening of the World War, will be lost to the Republicans this year unless something definite is accomplished to check the evil of lynch law.

BUFFALO N Y TIMES
JUNE 6, 1922

LYNCH LAW AND ITS PUPILS. THE RETRIBUTIVE RESULTANTS OF EXAMPLE.

Elsewhere on this page we reprint an impressive editorial o "Lynch Law" from our esteemed contemporary, the Washingto Herald of May 24th. It tells its own story, but it doesn't tel all of the story. When regulating and repressive fanaticism began in this direction and that direction and all directions, to "lynch' the private and personal rights of American citizens, the short distance thinkers responsible for such governmental methods, did not foresee that the irresponsible mob element would be quick to seize upon and imitate the example set.

Law depends upon respect for law, belief in law, confidence in law, and in the unswerving sincerity, honesty and impartiality of the laws themselves. When even law-abiding citizens see that the ancient safeguards, the ancient rights, the ancient liberties, the ancient truths, mean nothing to the powers that be if they want to "get" this man or "silence" hat one, there is a paralysis of trust in all laws; and in such a situation the lawless-minded have practically a free hand. When rebuked they point to unlawful searches, seizures, interferences and molestations by the Government itself, and assert that they are co-operating with and not antagonizing "law and order" as exemplified by the procedure of the highest constituted authorities.

Lynch Law is "Lynch Law," by whomever practiced! It means **mob law** as against the laws of the land. And the laws of the land on a last analysis are no more and no less than the liberties and the protections enumerated in Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights. What these mean is probably unknown to millions of Americans. That is why we are having the kind of conditions we are now "enjoying." As Sir Auckland Geddes British Minister to the United States, recently said in a speech at Los Angeles, "**general ignorance is the curse of modern civilization.**"

WHAT'S LAW AMONG MOBS?

ALBANY N. Y. TELEGRAM
JULY 9, 1922

From the Pittsburg Dispatch.

PLAIN defiance to law is distinctly marked by the latest mob demonstration in Georgia. Two Negroes convicted of a capital crime, but respited by Governor Hardwick, were taken from a deputy sheriff and lynched. The irony of the affair is that the prisoners were being removed to Savannah for safety when the murder occurred. When the deputy reached Savannah without his charges he explained what happened, and that for the time seems to be the end of the incident.

From brushing aside the law in minor acts to ignoring judicial procedures and orders in more serious cases and then open defiance of executive authority are steps soon taken when public guardians of law and order fail to suppress the unsocial and unethical outbreaks. Viewed broadly the people of a State who trample upon laws and courts and executive officials, as the inhabitants of Georgia have done so frequently in recent months, are in a state of rebellion against authority. In this case, as well as others, there could be no question of punishment under the law, since the men had been convicted and were under sentence, which the Governor's respite merely temporarily postponed. But the mob stands law and courts aside for the swifter methods of murder by the pack. It will be interesting to observe what Governor Hardwick will do now.

Lynchings—1922.
Discussions of.

White Press (Northern.)

1020

SPRINGFIELD MASS EVE UNION
NOVEMBER 16, 1922

Private Lynchings

While the people of this country, particularly those resident in the Northern States, appear ready at all times to condemn lynching outrages and demand the punishment of those who participate in these murders of persons accused or suspected of crime, the fact that lynch law in one form is permitted in the North is overlooked. Southern mob defenders seek to justify the slaying of a suspected person on the plea that such lawless action is necessary as a deterrent of crime.

In some of the States where mob lynching is looked upon with horror, as it properly should be, the lynching by an individual has recently found defenders in the last place on earth where murder should be justified—in the criminal courts and by a clergyman. In two recent cases of deliberate slaying, attorneys have worked upon the maudlin emotions of juries by arguing that the killers in the respective cases should not be judged by the law that applies to others but by an unwritten law.

This "unwritten law," it may be assumed from the circumstances of the cases, abrogates the commandment of God, "Thou shalt not kill," and sets aside the statutes that provide for punishment of murderers. The abrogation, however, operates only to benefit those who murder a man suspected of being paramour to the slayer's wife or who like a woman tried on a murder charge kill because the victim who had maintained illicit relations with the defendant failed to cast off his wife to marry the paramour. In both cases the jury was so impressed with the suggestion that an admitted "private lynching" of the kind was justifiable that the slayers were acquitted.

A clergyman in Cincinnati publicly expressed his approval of the murder commtted by the woman is one of the cases mentioned and declared that had he been a member of the jury he, too, would have voted for acquittal. Thus a conspicuous figure in the community, a man who by his calling would seem to be required to uphold the commandments given on the Mount of Sinai, appears in the role of a defender of cold-blooded murder. The attitude of this clergyman is illustrative of a new concept of morality and justice which parades under the paradoxical title of the "unwritten law."

If this license for private lynching is to be generally recognized it has been suggested that the course needed to remove one factor in the growing disrespect for orderly and lawful administration of justice is the repeal of the written law and the adoption of a statute declaring murder to be lawful in any case in which the murderer thinks he or she should not be punished for killing.

Lynchings — 1922.
Discussion

Ohio (White Press)

995

DAYTON O. NEWS
JUNE 6, 1922

BURNING AT THE STAKE

The recent epidemic of mob violence against negroes has resulted in a general discussion of the subject and the relation thereto of the so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill, which is tabled in the senate committee because of grave doubts regarding its constitutionality. The newspapers of all sections unite in condemning mob action and appeal to the law and order element in every community to stamp out the spirit of violence. But many express doubt of the wisdom of action by the Federal government, believing that the states themselves can be depended on to end the outrages.

Although harm has come because of a popular conception that Federal laws are better enforced than state enactments, which has resulted in allegations that states rights have been trespassed upon, the Milwaukee Sentinel feels convinced that it is "high time for some states to bring their law enforcement machinery up to the standard set by the Federal laws." Yet with that view carefully taken into consideration the Grand Rapids Herald believes that "in spirit and purpose the Dyer law is sound. Persistent southern lynchings are a blot on American civilization. This curse will never be controlled by the states themselves. Under the doctrine of 'implied powers' some way can be found—whether the Dyer law or some other—to make federal attack upon this curse constitutional and resultful." In view of the fact that there apparently was conclusive evidence that some, at least, of the negroes lynched were guilty, the Manitowoc Herald-News says the incident appears "in what might be called its most favorable aspect," and then, after recalling that the "great majority of decent southerners have spoken against this crime," insists "the Federal government apparently cannot set free the negroes, but it can and should see that they are protected in life and limb."

Sharp and sincere denunciation of the killing of the negroes is voiced by the Lynchburg News in pointing out that "the cure for the evil resides with the authorities and the public opinion of the communities in which this order of lawlessness finds expression," and it makes it very clear that "because of a few recklessly, cruelly, lawlessly disposed groups of people, the entire south is unjustly advertised to be a land where lynching stalks abroad, as an unconquerable menace to the maintenance of order and to the peace of society." While this is true, some action must be taken to curb the evil in the opinion of the Boston Transcript, which insists if congress has not power to act, then a constitutional amendment should give this authority because "the nation is on its conscience in this matter. It cannot live and be safe while nourishing in its breast such rampant and worsening savagery as lynch law expresses." But there is sincere doubt in the mind of the Rochester Herald whether law of any sort will suffice, it suggesting that "there is but one way to stop lynching and that is by more general education, by the cultivation of greater confidence in, and more universal reliance upon, the courts and in the processes of law."

The Southland is "unfortunately libelled by circumstances and individuals that are directly antagonistic to her thought, her sentiment, her aspirations and her spirit," the Memphis Commercial Appeal points out, in comparing the mob violence to the actions in Washington of Senator Tom Watson and Representative Blanton. "Both cast a stain upon the fair name, the high ideals and the lofty sentiments of a great section of this country," it says. However, mob outrages are by no means confined to the south, the Columbia Record quietly points out in suggesting that ::in the south a bombing outrage is a rarity, and recalling the numerous recent cases in northern cities. In addition, while it is believed that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional, the Charleston Post reminds its readers that "those sections which fly to mob adjudication of crimes committed ought to appreciate the significance of the movement, which almost succeeded, to put this measure through and that, while it has been largely political in its inspiration there is a widespread revolt against the lynching evil and it might find expression in some legislation which might even pass the scrutiny of the supreme court."

MARION O TRIBUNE
JULY 7, 1922

THE LYNCHING SPIRIT.

The spirit that brings about mobs and lynching is not confined to any one section or to any one class of people. The irritation of the law's delays and the feeling that guilty too often escape has the same effect in Michigan as in Texas. It is no different in Pennsylvania than in Georgia. The mob which demanded the murder of a young woman at Jackson, Mich., was filled with the same desire for prompt and effective action as actuates the mob in Louisiana under similar circumstances.

Human nature is the same everywhere. Climate and environment have their effect, but basically we are all descendants of the same Adam and the same "of the earth, earthly," feeling actuates every red-blooded man or woman when the provocation comes. This is no plea for lynch law; no condoning of the wrong doing of a mob. But it is well when the subject is brought up for discussion, in the halls of congress or on the outside, to remember that it is not a sectional question. Lynchings may occur more frequently in south because the provocation is more frequent. Given the same conditions and the northern mob is just as ready, just as prompt and just as determined. The remedy lies along the lines of prompt and effective enforcement of the laws, punishment of criminals, high and low, without escape through technicality or pull. More laws are not needed—enforce those we have.

CLEVELAND O PLAINDEALER
JULY 12, 1922

The Dyer Bill.

In the first six months of 1922 there were thirty lynchings in the United States. Twenty-eight of the victims were negroes. Mississippi and Texas were guilty of 63 per cent. of these murders of helpless and in some cases innocent Americans. So far as we know, not a single member of any of these lynching mobs was punished for the crime.

Yet congressmen say it would be unconstitutional for the federal government to step in to protect these men and women denied protection by their own states. Members from Mississippi and Texas are doubtless agreed that passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill would be a mistake.

There is plenty of legal opinion to the effect that the Dyer bill would be constitutional. Anyhow, the way to find out whether it would stand the judicial test is to enact it and invite the issue.

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussion.

South Carolina (White Press)

968

RETAIL AND WHOLESALE LYNCHING.

Greenville News 7-2-22

The Tuskegee Institute reports that there were thirty lynchings in the United States during the first half of the year, including twenty-eight blacks and two whites. Texas led in this barbarism with twelve lynchings, Mississippi followed with seven, Georgia and Arkansas had two each, while Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, Oklahoma and South Carolina reported one each.

The South deplores the lynching evil as much as any other section of the country—that is the South with the exception of the hoodlums who actually take the law into their hands. In South Carolina the one lynching of the six months did not have the sympathy of more than a hundred people. To charge the people of this state with sympathetic acquiescence of it is preposterous.

And yet this semi-annual report of the Tuskegee Institute will be eagerly read by politicians and anti-southern newspapers in the North and be made to describe a condition condoned by the whole South!

Senators and representatives arguing the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill will point to the horrible death toll taken by lynchers below the Mason and Dixon line.

The Chicago Tribune will have new data upon which to compare the South to cannabalistic Africa.

The effort of the Tuskegee Institute to keep track of lynchings may be honest but it is grossly inefficient.

In some way the institute failed to note that twenty men were lynched at Herrin, Illinois, in the most brutal American butchery of the century, only a little more than a week ago. How the lynching statisticians failed to add in these vicitims is not understandable. It is true that the press did not speak of the slaughter as a lynching but as a labor riot. Yet in spirit and fact it was a lynching and if it had occurred in the South it would have been called by its right but uncouth name.

A lynching is an act whereby individuals seek redress without due recourse to law. The miners of Williamson county having failed to get from the law what they regarded as their due rights, took the law into their hands and went out to do vengeance. When they surmounted the law they became lynchers, just as southern men do who chase down and murder negroes who have perpetrated outrages against their race.

The Tuskegee Institute makes its compilation a mere sham when it fails to charge Illinois with twenty lynchings. If the Dyer anti-lynching law were operative it would treat the Herrin massacre in the same way that it would treat the burning of a negro in Texas.

The truth is that Illinois had two-thirds as many lynchings in one day as the South had in six months. The South is done a material injustice in having its record published broadcast over the nation without slightest reference to the far blacker record of Illinois.

Let it also be noted that in spite of its "enlightenment" and "civilization" Illinois has done less to punish its lynchers than Texas or South Carolina has done.

Before digesting the Tuskegee report and taking another fling at the South let politicians and newspapers of the North look around their own front door. They will find it harboring wholesale lynching while the South has only retail.

Lynchings—1922

Discussions.og.

White Press.(Southern)

972

"BY NEGRO AGITATORS AND NORTHERN POLITICIANS"?

SAN ANTONIO TEX EXPRESS
NOVEMBER 8, 1922

Read—in the fourth column—the Birmingham Age-Herald's earnest reply to San Antonio Express' comment on Federal Court dealings with mob violence in Alabama:

Read this conclusion:

"The situation is deplorable, but a measure"—the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill—"fostered by negro agitators and Northern politicians for vote-getting purposes, might prove a remedy worse than the disease it attempts to cure".

Like the Age-Herald, San Antonio Express prefers—infinitely, pridefully, incomparably—that the States smash the mob and crush the mob-spirit for themselves; always has preferred this; always will prefer it. But, far too many of the States seldom—some of them never—have done their constitutional, statutory, social, civilized, humanitarian, modern duty in the premises. And their welfare—moral, material, political—and their very civic cohesion depends upon their upholding the fundamental law and keeping public order. Mob "law" is none of these things; serves none of these essentials—but drags down and debauches and destroys them all. It bestializes the citizens and poisons the minds of the rising generation. Its anti-civic, anti-social, anti-moral—anarchical—contaminations go into the home and even into the public school.

In 1919, San Antonio Express labored with the Thirty-sixth Legislature for the enactment of an anti-lynching bill not unlike the Dyer measure; and also for the adoption of a resolution to submit a constitutional-amendment proposition that the lyncher—like the duelist and the political corruptionist—be disfranchised and debarred from Texas public office. Let it be repeated for the hundredth time—touching the Age-Herald's objections and preference on the score of State performance of a vital, tremendous State duty—that those State measures were not even reported out of committee, after a favorable public hearing thereon; although some of the strongest, best-known Senators and Representatives signed the resolution.

Not a single year since 1884 has seen Texas escape the lynching infamy. It has suffered as many as twenty-two lynchings in one year; but in only one year has it suffered less than three. And this year, so far, it heads the lynching statistics for the second time since 1919. And not a single lynch-murderer among the fourteen mobs of 1922 has been executed, or sent to prison, or even fined for carrying a deadly weapon. Not a single State governmental investigation of these foul outrages against the State's own Bill of Rights, Constitution and statutes!

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" * * * a measure fostered by negro agitators and Northern politicians for vote-getting purposes * * * "

On May 5 and 6, 1919, in New York City, the National Conference on Lynching conducted and concluded its deliberations. "The prevalence in many States of the spirit which tolerates lynching, accompanied too often with inhuman cruelty, and the inability or unwillingness of the public authorities to punish the persons who are guilty of this crime, threaten very seriously the future peace of the Nation", ran the country-wide call to the conference.

Out of that assembly came "An Address to the Nation":

"The undersigned, as citizens of the United States without sectional or party bias, with the interest only of the Republic at heart, urge all public-spirited men and women to oppose with all their power the recurrence of the crime and shame of mob murder; they urge the Governors of the several States to do all that is possible to prevent and punish lynchings; they pledge their support to the officers of the law who, in the face of mob excitement, discharge their duties; and they urge upon the Congress of the United States, Nation-wide investigation of lynching and mob murder, to the end that means may be found to end this scourge".

And who signed the call to that conference, which appealed for Federal Government investigation of, and action against, lynch-murder?

"Negro agitators and Northern politicians"?

Among the signers were Governors and United States Senators, eminent welfare-workers in civic and sociological concerns, jurists and clergymen, financiers and philanthropists, economists and publicists, business and professional men, such university presidents as Butler and Thwing, Jordan and Wheeler; Jews and Gentiles of whatever religious denomination. Among them were Dr. Eliot, president emeritus of Harvard; former President Taft, Cardinal Gibbons, Charles E. Hughes, Elihu Root, Attorney General Palmer, Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, Dr. Henry Van Dyke.

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But—the best is yet to come:

Twenty-eight States and the District of Columbia were represented in the 120 signers of the call.

Twenty of the signers were residents of eight Southern—"lynching"—States:

ALABAMA: Former Governor Emmett O'Neal.

Georgia: Governor Hugh M. Dorsey, former Congressman William H. Fleming, the Rev. and Mrs. John D. Hammond, the Rt. Rev. Frederick F. Reese, Episcopal Bishop of Georgia.

Kentucky: Desha Breckenridge.

Louisiana: The Rev. Quincy Ewing.

Mississippi: A. T. Stovall, J. R. Bingham, J. B. Hutton, Jack C. Wilson.

North Carolina: W. D. Weatherford.

Tennessee: Bishop Thomas F. Gailor, James H. Kirkland, Fayette A. McKenzie, Bolton Smith.

Virginia: James H. Dillard, William H. Huntley, Henry St. George Tucker.

Obviously, the fact that negro agitators and Northern vote-seeking politicians urge the Dyer Bill, neither indicts the character of the patriotic, famed men and women—Northerners and Southerners—who arranged and consummated the National Conference on Lynching, nor damns the "Address to the Nation" which that assembly put forth. Nor, indeed, does it condemn the Dyer Bill itself—the congressional investigation of, and essay against, mob violence throughout the United States, only six of which States have records unspotted by lynch-murder. Good citizens and bad elected Woodrow Wilson. Good citizens and bad voted for Warren G. Harding. Democratic President Wilson—Southern-born and Southern-reared—far more forcefully and impressively than Republican President Harding—Northern-born and Northern-reared—denounced lynching before the world and searingly exposed his country's atrocious record.

There is no crime, no criminal, not amenable to law—else every State's own Constitution and statues are lies.

There is no section of the Bill of Rights—National or State—that should not be upheld fearlessly—always.

Regardless of what the States do, or fail or refuse to do, should the United States Government give no more heed to the Nation's own adaptation of ancient Magna Charta than if it were a scrap of paper?

Outrage against the National Constitution demands National Government action.

Lynchings — 1922. White Press. (Tennessee)

Discussions.

973

LYNCHING DENOUNCED.

Speakers at Rotary Club at Texarkana Voice Protest.

Commercial Appeal

TEXARKANA, Ark., May 26.—At the regular weekly meeting of the Rotary Club held yesterday a number of speeches were made strongly condemning the lynching of the negro last Friday night. Among the speakers were B. H. Kuhl, C. E. Palmer, Stuart Wilson, R. W. Rodgers, G. R. Payne and others. All the speakers deprecated mob lawlessness.

A committee consisting of W. R. Grim, a leading banker; J. H. Forbes, Arthur Temple, R. W. Rodgers, B. H. Kuhl and Stuart Wilson, was appointed to prepare suitable resolutions expressing the club's sentiments on the matter and present the same at the next weekly meeting.

DALLAS TEX NEWS
MAY 31, 1922

LYNCHING NOT CONFINED TO SOUTH.

"The recent atrocities perpetrated in Texas that have resulted in lynchings probably will provoke another outburst among Northern and Eastern newspapers," said Herbert Lynch of Peoria, Ill., yesterday, "but the citizens of my part of the United States have no right to criticise the people of the South for tolerance of lynchings. The North is credited with 219 lynchings last year, against 2,834 in the Southern States, but the lynchings that have occurred in my own State and in such States as Ohio have been quite as flagrant and disgraceful as those in Texas and neighboring States. As long as folks rather glorify the participant in a lynching party lynchings will continue. The perpetration of murders would never be so enticing if the killer did not so often become a hero in the eyes of people. The reason for more lynchings in the South than in the North is not hard to find, for there are quite as many more atrocious crimes in the South as there are lynchings. God speed the day in this country when the hand of man will turn against murder and against lynching. In my judgment attempts to punish mob will never have the desired effect until the idea of killing becomes obnoxious to the individual."

MEMPHIS TENN WKLY APPEAL
MAY 30, 1922

Giving the South a Bad Name.

As long as lynchings, burnings and other acts of mob violence are done in the south, and as long as any of the southern states send to the National Congress such men as Senator Tom Watson of Georgia and Representative Blanton of Texas then will the south be misunderstood and maligned and put to the necessity of defending herself against many false and foul aspersions. Neither the action of mobs nor the coarse conduct and coarser language of Watson and Blanton can be considered as being representative in any way of the sentiment of the south. The southland is thus unfortunately libeled by circumstances and individuals that are directly antagonistic to her thought, her sentiment, her aspirations and her spirit.

Of the two congressional evils Senator Watson is decidedly the worse because of the exalted position he occupies and because of the coarser vulgarity of his conduct and vocabulary. He has come to be the "stormy petrel" of the Senate, with none of the redeeming qualities possessed by the late Senator Tillman of South Carolina, or any of the other congressional firebrands. On the slightest provocation he surrenders to his violent temper and while under the spell of it his language is that of a fishmonger. In his brief senatorial career he has been the principal in several disgusting scenes in the Senate, but none has shown him so clearly the crass vulgarian as his attempt to pick a fight with Senator Phipps the other day on the Senate floor.

The cause in which Watson tried to enlist his physical prowess was just as vulgar as the argument of f[illegible] tried to invoke. It was all [illegible] selection [illegible] a postmasters, who were not o[illegible] ing of Watson. It might be true tha[illegible] Senator Phipps violated senatorial courtesy, but that did not excuse the crass exhibition of the Georgian when he walked over to the desk of the Colorado senator with the Senate in session and threatened to make "pulp" of the westerner's face. The newspaper reports say that Senator Phipps tried to reason with his assailant, but that Senator Watson declared most vehemently:

> If you say another word to me I'll knock your face in with my fist. Just come down off that step and I'll punch your face.

This is nothing more nor less than the argument of the mob, and Senator Watson during the greater part of his career has been the embodiment of the mob spirit. The kind of statesmanship that he typifies, billingsgate and fisticuffs, is as much a disgrace to the south as is the bloodthirsty barbarity of the men who trample upon law and legal machinery when they torture and kill some helpless victim. Both cast a stain upon the fair name, the high ideals and the lofty sentiments of a great section of this country.

It has been said that Tom Watson stands in the highest lawmaking body of the nation as a living protest against the policies of former President Wilson and no higher tribute could be paid the latter than this. Mr. Wilson is surely blessed with his enemies when they are of the type of Tom Watson. We can well understand how the clear and forward looking vision, the lofty ideals, the fine sentiment and the delicate diction of the former president are obnoxious and repugnant to Senator Tom Watson of Georgia.

Lynchings—1922. Texas. (White press)

Discussion.

SAN ANTONIO TEX LIGHT
JUNE 4, 1922

LYNCHINGS

Of la[illegible] there have been numerous lynchi[illegible] in Texas and other states, of negro men who were guilty of assault upon white women. As is usual at such times there has been an outcry from misguided sentimentalists to the effect that "Mob spirit must be quelled," "The law must take its course," "Officers must be allowed to do their duty," etc, etc.

If one of these people has uttered a single word in condemnation of the fearful offense against society that brought about the negro's punishment, THE LIGHT has never heard it.

Some people and some newspapers—some of them published less than a thousand miles from San Antonio—have had the indecency to say that in cases where a negro has been lynched for an assault upon a white woman the paramount crime has been the lynching and not the assault. Such people and such talk are the true instigators of lynch law. They do the negro positive harm by such utterances and they create a frame of mind in the community that inevitably leads toward lynchings.

The very foolish people who talk in this way entirely overlook—or are incapable of seeing—the really fundamental principles that underlie all lynchings that come as a consequence of assault upon a white woman.

The first of these principles is the elementary right of any people to a high standard of manhood and womanhood. There can be no high standard of womanhood if it is not protected by those who should protect it and there cannot be any high standard of manhood that does not protect womanhood. People may rave and rant against the evils of lynchings, but they must first remove the cause that leads to lynchings before they can ever hope to make even a commencement toward doing away with them.

The negro must obey the absolute law that declares he shall keep his distance from the women of the whites. He can infringe upon that law only at the extreme peril of his life. This principle cannot be modified, cannot be arbitrated, cannot be discussed. It is a law of nature that always has been, is now and eternally will be. When there is a different law there will be no white manhood that is worthy of the name. And it is certain that there will be good white manhood on this earth for many centuries to come.

Lynchings are to be deplored and prevented if possible, but they will never be prevented so long as negro men attempt to place their hands upon white women. The federal government may pass laws, the states may pass laws, but there is no government strong enough to prevent men from taking into their own hands the swift vengeance that this one crime calls for.

People who either cannot or will not see and understand these facts are wasting their time in talking or otherwise agitating against lynchings in cases of assault. They would be far better advised if the expended their time and energy laboring to convince the negro of his real status in such cases and warning him of the inevitable destruction that awaits him when he oversteps the line that has been drawn by the white man around his women.

If the sentimentalists followed this line of endeavor in seeking to lessen the number of lynchings they would be far better friends to the negro and immeasurably better citizens than they now are.

Houston Post

The Columbia State protests that the press of the country is referring to the slaughter at Herrin as a "labor war," instead of a lynching. If it had happened in the South, says the State, it would have been called a lynching by the newspapers everywhere. The State is right in declaring that it was a lynching. The men who were killed were exercising their constitutional right to work. They were at the mines to work, not to fight. When they were attacked by superior numbers they surrendered and left the mine, only to be shot down or hanged by the drunken, infuriated mob. It was a lynching. The fact that there were 5000 in the mob and twenty victims does not alter the nature of the crime. A lynching is a lynching whether it occurs in the South or elsewhere, and it appears that the States in the North are as indifferent toward punishing lynchers as are those in the South.

7-6 '23

Lynchings—1922
Discussion

White Press (Texas) 964

DALLAS TEX NEWS
DECEMBER 26, 1921

LYNCHING MADE A SAFE PASTIME.

It was the late Governor Hogg, we believe, who put forth the idea that it would do much in the way of putting down the lynching habit if citizens would make it their rule to vote against the re-election of any Sheriff who had surrendered a prisoner to a mob without resisting it to the limit of his ability. That idea has a highly practical value, The News believes. It believes, in other words, that if all citizens who appreciate the danger that the lynch-habit exposes us to would make it their practice to vote against the re-election of every Sheriff who had surrendered a prisoner to a mob without having shot at least one member of the mob, there would be a larger reduction in the number of lynchings than in the population of the State. There are some Sheriffs who would rather forfeit their office than slay a citizen in defense of a criminal. Such would not be much influenced by the practice of the rule suggested by Governor Hogg. But the greater number of them have the better sense of duty which enables them to see in the members of a mob bent on lynching only a band of men threatening murder, and they would get the incentive they need if a default of duty were made a certain bar to re-election. Most of us take some note of the record a Sheriff has made in considering whether we shall vote for or against his re-election. But it is doubtful if many of us, in estimating the efficiency of one of these officers, make it a debit in his record if he has allowed a mob to murder a prisoner in his custody. It is because that item is seldom if ever found in the account which the ordinary citizen makes up to determine the casting of his vote, that a Sheriff may with impunity default on the most solemn of all the duties that he swears to perform. The rule which Governor Hogg enjoined on the citizen goes to the very heart of the problem. For it is immunity from any harmful consequence attending this crime which is the cause of its popularity. The members of a mob may murder a prisoner in the assurance that none of them will ever be convicted of the crime they commit; with the assurance, in a great majority of cases, that none of them will even be made to answer in court, and with the further and initial assurance, in most cases, that their lives will not be endangered while committing their crime. And, finally, the Sheriff who gives them that immunity can do so in the assurance that his delinquence, however cowardly, will incur no penalty of any kind. Lynching is encouraged by the impunity with which, at every stage of its progress, the crime may be committed, and the impunity has its origin in the citizen's indifference to the political sin of those Sheriffs who bestow on the mob a privilege which they receive from the ballot box.

Lynching vs. "Mob Murders"

Houston Tex Post 5/2/22

North Carolina authorities are becoming impatient over the delay in securing the extradition from Canada of the negro Matthew Bullock, who is wanted for the crime of inciting to riot. It is felt that North Carolina's good name is being reflected upon by Canada's fear that the negro will be lynched, if he be returned to the State for trial.

Governor Morrison is out in a lengthy statement defending the State's reputation, and declaring that many of the so-called "lynchings" are nothing more than murders of criminals by the friends of the victim, the murders frequently taking place before the officers get possession of the criminals.

The governor's argument appears to make a distinction without a difference. Killing of persons charged with crime by mobs before the officers arrive may relieve the officers of blame for neglect of duty, provided they make due effort to arrive in time, but it is difficult to distinguish between the moral guilt of a mob that kills before the accused is arrested and of one that kills after he has been arrested.

Furthermore there would appear to be little difference in their injury to the law. If they take a prisoner away from an officer they are usurpers, and are for the time being as dangerous to the established government as an armed foreign invader would be. But when they deprive the officers of the right to bring to trial one accused of crime, their offense against the law is scarcely less grave, for in punishing the accused themselves, they are still usurpers of the functions of the constituted authorities.

It speaks well for the officers that few prisoners are taken away from them and lynched in North Carolina, but it does not speak well for a large part of the population of North Carolina, that most of what Governor Morrison prefers to designate as mere "murders" by crowds of enranged citizens, occur before the officers get possession of the accused.

The governor and the good people of North Carolina have a right to feel humiliated that their State as a lawabiding and law-enforcing entity has been called into question by a foreign government. Mob violence in North Carolina has not been as prevalent as in some other States, but it has nevertheless existed, and the State's case in this particular controversy with the Canadian government is weakened by the fact that this negro's brother was lynched, or "murdered," as Governor Morrison would say, for this same crime.

If North Carolina's difficulty with Canada over this extradition case should result in a better conception of the supremacy of law among those who are given to mob violence, the damage to the State's reputation will have been entirely offset.

SAN ANTONIO TEX EXPRESS
MAY 26. 1922

A LETHAL CHAMBER COULD DO NO WORSE

We have Governor Neff's word for it that the Texas lynching epidemic "is indeed regrettable."

We also have this:

"Those participating in mobs cannot be successfully and effectively prosecuted until a law is enacted providing for their prosecution in some other county rather than the county in which the mob occurred. I know of nothing that will be so effective in breaking up mobocracy as the passage of a law providing for the trial of mobs outside the county where the offense was perpetrated."

Yes; nine Texas mob-murders within less than three weeks—as against seven mob-murders throughout 1921—are "regrettable." At least.

Here is something else regrettable:

On January 27, 1919, the Kittrell-Dayton anti-lynching bill struck the eyes of the Legislature in Austin. (A Texas State measure by Texas Democrats—not "another dangerous attempt at centralized power in Washington"—not "an outrageous attack on State rights" through seizure of the State's constitutional police power—not "a despicable blow at the South to pay Republican debts to the negro"—Nothing of the bad, treacherous character which Southern Senators and Representatives in Washington attempt to fasten upon the Dyer Bill).

The Kittrell-Dayton Texas State anti-lynching bill, rather like the Dyer Federal measure, proposed monetary penalties which the county publicly must pay as damages to the injured victim of a mob, or to the survivors of a dead victim of a mob. But more than that —Governor Neff—it provided that participants in mob violence resulting in death should be charged with murder, and that venue for mob murder should be, not in the mob's home county, but in Travis County, with the Attorney General prosecuting!

The Kittrell-Dayton Texas State anti-lynching bill—as distinguished from the Dyer Federal measure, which is "a political outrage" against the lynching States that are "quite able and willing to handle their own lynching problems for themselves", as it is their constitutional right (and duty) to do—well, the Kittrell-Dayton Bill went to committee.

There it was knocked on the head as soon as convenient.

It was not decapitated on the floor of the Senate or House. It did not get that far. Committeeroom finished it. A lethal chamber could do no worse.

Still thinking of what Texas, other Southwestern, and Southern delegations in Congress say about the Dyer Federal Bill, it is pertinent to recall that the Kittrell-Dayton State Bill was not the only such committeeroom victim of the Thirty-sixth regular legislative session:

This lynching State, as a sovereign government, is not only quite able and willing to deal, but actually is dealing with its own lynching problems for itself, per its constitutional right. So its National Representatives say in the House.

Therefore, it behooves one to go on and remind the world that, almost simultaneously, the proposed resolution for an anti-lynching amendment to the State

...ion of Democratic Texas shared
...te of Democratic Representative
...'s and Democratic Senator Day-
...ill!

...resolution called upon the citi-
... Democratic Texas—not upon the
... States Congress—to ordain con-
...onally that lynchers must be dis-
...ised and debarred from public
...; thus putting them in the same
...tutional class with duelists and
...pt politicians, as civic pariahs.

...d, as we were saying, that purely
...ocratic State constitutional-amend-
...t resolution also was knocked on the
...d in committeeroom of the purely
...ocratic State Legislature.

...indeed"—and indeed—the Texas
...nching epidemic is "regrettable."

Wellnigh as regrettable, however, is the Texas State Government's share of the responsibility for Texas lynchings.

It is all a matter of cold-blooded political record.

Meanwhile, the Dyer Federal Anti-Lynching Bill has passed the House and has more than a fair show of passing the Senate. And we do not doubt that President Harding will adorn the dotted line with his signature.

FORT WORTH TEX RECORD
MAY 23, 1922

LYNCHING IS A CRIME.

Not Only Are Lynchers Lawbreakers, but They Damage the Fair Name of Their Community

A BRUTAL crime was committed in Tex a few weeks ago. Posses were organiz to assist officers of the law in tracking dow the guilty wretches, which was all very wel for the people were aroused by the heinou offense and needed some outlet for their fee ings. So long as they were merely helping th officers they were within the law. But whe arrests had been made, without even the sem blance of a trial to ascertain the guilt of th men captured, some of the citizens who ha assembled to make the law respected forgo their role and became a mob, and not onl blood-thirsty, but cruel. They were not con tent merely with killing; they had to torture and burn.

Since that lynching there have been severa others in Texas, one just across the line in Ar kansas and one in Georgia, and the same de sire to torture was shown. The lust of bat tle, it is said, makes men want to kill, but in battle it is a fight; it is force against force, an opportunity to kill and be killed. In the case of a mob it is a lawless body of ruffians seeking the life of an unarmed creature who has lost the power to do harm. They are putting themselves on the level with him, if he be guilty as suspected, and they are not brave, for they face no danger. They are living protected lives by virtue of the law, and when they put the law to shame, as lynchers do, they are leading to the time when it will not protect them, and they, too, may become victims of hate.

Lynchings are needless and senseless. They are needless because the guilty will not escape, especially when it is such crimes as were behind most of the recent lynchings. They are senseless, because they are invariably directed by lawbreakers, who must use force against the officers of the law to carry out their purpose, and the lyncher puts himself on the level with his victim.

There is yet another and a forceful reason why lynchings should be frowned upon by the people of the South. Efforts are being made by adverse political interests in the North to obtain anti-lynching legislation that would be very unfair to the South, and southern congressmen have had no easy time combating it. Such lynchings as have recently occurred put powerful weapons into the hands of advocates of unfair legislation and put the people of the South in an unenviable light before the people of the whole country. And as a matter of fact, southern people are as much opposed to lynching as any people in the world, and it is only the riff-raff that compose the mobs.

Just as one lie leads to another, so one lynching leads to another. Lynching parties are bolstered up by a false idea of their personal responsibility to avenge some crime. How many of them would be willing to face personal danger to uphold that responsibility? Very few, if the truth be known. They have no respect for the law, else they would not be willing to break it, and they have no pride in the good name of their community, else they would be willing to let the law punish those who violate it.

LAREDO TEX. TIMES
MAY 29, 1922

NEED CURE

The reports of negro outrages from various parts of the state in the past few weeks indicate a vast unrest among the negroes that constitutes a menace to the peace of the communities where the negroes are in sufficient numbers to be dangerous.

It is to be expected that where there is a large negro community there will be some "bad" negroes, and the outrages indicate a necessity for a clean-up in those communities. The majority of the negroes are peaceable and law-abiding and the crimes are committed by an element which is as dangerous to the members of their own race as to the whites.

Indeed, the presence of a mischief-making negro is sometimes worse for the well-being of the other negroes than it possibly can be for the white people, for the outrages naturally react on the whole negro settlement.

In some sections where the negroes far outnumber the whites, it is fortunate that the bulk of them are well-behaved, and that their law-breaking is confined to the occasional theft of a few chickens or similar light offenses. For with a few bad [illegible] and the wilingness of the rest of the negroes to arm and offer violence to the white people of their community, serious trouble would result.

Prohibition seems to have made little impress on the conditions obtaining where there is a large negro population, except that there have been fewer arrests for drunkenness and disorderly conduct. But it will be remembered that even when the saloons were open there was little tendency upon the part of the negroes to "get something" with the white residents, and the most hardened drunkard usually knew "where to head in" when he was under the influence of liquor.

But recently the negroes have been committing with more frequency the unspeakable crime against white girls and women, and naturally this arouses a feeling on the part of the white people that argues badly for even the decent negroes. And in some sections a spark is all that is needed to cause an explosion of race war that will result disastrously for all of the negro race.

It is time the negroes listened to the counsels of the better class of their race, as well as to the cautions of their white neighbors. They must remember that there is one crime that never is forgiven, and even among the people of the North, where the negro is granted privileges he does not even expect in the South, there is no pardon when a negro oversteps that boundary line.

The killing of the negro in Waco was deserved and no one will blame the father of the woman who was the latest victim of a negro's beastly lust. The burning of the dead body and the dragging of the charred remains through the streets is inexcusable, for it served no useful purpose, not even acting as a warning to other negroes, and it only served to bring out all that is base in human beings.

But it is an indication to what lengths respectable citizens may be driven by the recurrence of such a foul crime, week after week, and while the memory of the latest punishment inflicted for a similar outrage is fresh in the minds of all.

It is getting so that a girl or a woman is afraid to travel the public highway in certain sections, lest some degraded brute in the image of man should treat her as no beast of the jungle would do.

It may end in such a dreadful outbreak against the negro race as to be remembered for years to come, and the decent, law-abiding members of the race will be the sufferers, not merely those who deserve it. Let us hope that the recent punishments, illegal though they may be, will serve the useful purpose of warning all other negroes against committing the crime which above all others causes a white man to forget his obedience to the law and drives him to unlawful acts.

HOUSTON TEX CHRONICLE
JUNE 4, 1922

Lynching.

Miss Daffan: Something must be done in Texas about the terrible negro outrages. We are as wild as South Sea savages when our indignation is aroused, whether it is worthy indignation or not. If lynching is not stopped in Texas innocent victims will be destroyed in the first place, and we will begin to lynch criminals for crime not great enough to deserve it. H. I. C., Conroe, Texas.

Lynching will be stopped in Texas. So will crime be stopped. The enforcement of the law will see that it is stopped. And the enforcement of the law will also see that officers do their full duty, and do not stop at pretense of doing their duty.

Lynchings - 1922
Discussion

White Press (Vermont)

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RUTLAND VT HERALD
JANUARY 3, 1922

LAWLESS

Publisher Johnson of Randolph Comments on Lynching Sentiment and Practice in Texas.

A recent outbreak of lawlessness and lynching has taken place in Texas. Commonly, lynchings are reported from small towns or communities where the standard of morality and respect for law is at a low ebb compared with the populous centers, and where police protection cannot easily be given the victim, but this time the outrages come from some of the largest cities in Texas.

A negro strike breaker who had been involved in a fight with strikers and who lay in a hospital at Fort Worth with a fractured skull, was rushed out of the hospital by a small group of masked men and lynched.

At Waco, the home of Governor Neff, a young white, held for attempted assault on an eight-year-old girl, was taken from jail and hanged on a nearby tree which had once before served for a similar purpose. The tree has since been cut down as too convenient, but otherwise no effort has been made either at Fort Worth or Waco to deal with these outrages.

San Antonio has a very commendable record as to lynching, if this is not a grotesque way of putting it. A few instances of assault or murder by negroes have taken place here, but in each case the law has followed its course. One negro now awaits hanging in city jail after criminal procedure lasting two years. The other day a young white woman called at the jail and asked for the privilege of tying the knot. In general, there seems to be little race antagonism here in spite of the unusual association of white Americans, Mexicans and negroes.

The San Antonio newspapers condemn as strongly as any northern paper the brutal lynchings that are constantly degrading the South and the failure to follow them up by prosecution and punishment.

At Austin, the state capital, a killing took place the other evening, surrounded by mysterious circumstances, but apparently involving the local branch of the Ku Klux Klan, near the headquarters of which it occurred. Numerous arrests have been made, and the authorities breathe forth vengeance, but no one will probably swing for it. Even making allowance for the size of Texas, there yet remains more than a memory of the border days when life was held cheaply. It is still a rather quick-trigger country.—Luther B. Johnson in San Antonio Letter to Randolph Herald and News.

Lynchings - 1922.
Discussion.

White Press. (Virginia)

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NEWPORT NEWS VA HERALD
MAY 19, 1922

FIENDISHNESS IN GEORGIA.

During the World War civilization was shocked by the fiendishness of the Huns. But one will search the war records in vain for any act more fiendish than the lynching of the colored boy at Davisboro, Georgia. The press report says:

"After being tortured with a slow fire for fifteen minutes, the mob loosened the trace chains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his seared body in the middle of the highway. The mob demanded to know if there were others connected with the murder. Members of the mob then raised the body, again fastened it to the pine tree in an upright position, rekindled the fire at the base of the tree and then stood off giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body."

The boy himself had committed a fiendish crime and deserved to die. But the act of vengeance was more savage than the crime, and the amazing part of it is that two thousand persons either took part directly in the orgy, or stood by to witness the awful spectacle!

It is a disgrace to our land and there ought to be some means of bringing to justice perpetrators of this devilish crime.

WHEELING W V INTELLIGENCER
SEPTEMBER 5, 1922

"Crowd Lynches Negro Who Hit Woman With Iron Bar."—Headline.

Chances are she'll live, too. However, a drunken rummy can kill a decent citizen with an auto and probably get 2 to 5 for it. It's a great life in Wheeling—WHILE IT LASTS!

Lynchings — 1922
Geographical Distribution of.

1825

LYNCHING OF SPOKANE COUNTRY'S MEANEST CROOK RECALLED BY FIRE

Robbed While City Was Burning in 1889 and Later Murdered Pullman Citizen.

SPOKANE WASH REVIEW
SEPTEMBER 17, 1922

MOB STRUNG HIM UP

Artesian Hotel, Where Killing Occurred, Now Passes as Landmark of Wild Days.

Destruction by fire of the Artesian hotel at Pullman, after a useful existence of 30 years, removed the last material evidence of a dastardly murder which led to the most sensational lynching in the history of Whitman county. The man lynched was a notorious crook who had preyed on unfortunates during the great Spokane fire. Since the burning of the pioneer hostelry old-time citizens who were there when the building was constructed in 1892 have spun reminiscent yarns of the early history of the building and of the city, institutions which were closely linked in the days when Pullman was struggling for an existence and when the construction of a three-story hotel marked an epoch.

And of the stories which have been unfolded since the historical hotel became a mass of ruins, the murder of Amos B. Cooper and the subsequent lynching of his alleged slayer, George F. Parker, have occupied the limelight.

Locating a Suspect.

Mr. Cooper was one of Pullman's most respected citizens, and manager of Blackman Brothers' store. He was murdered in cold blood by a burglar who had entered his room in the Artesian hotel early in the morning of October 17, 1893, only a few months after the hotel had been opened to the public. Suspicion pointed to George F. Parker, who had occupied a near-by room on the night of the murder, having registered from Starbuck, and after an indignation meeting of citizens had been held Parker was placed under arrest, charged with the murder.

Parker went on trial at Colfax late in May, 1894, with J. N. Pickerell, still a resident of Colfax, as prosecuting attorney and J. T. (Shorty) Brown, deceased, attorney for the defendant. The evidence of the state had been virtually completed when, early on the morning of June 2, 1894, Parker was taken from his cell, together with Ed Hill, another alleged murderer, by a masked mob and both were hanged fro ma second story window.

Two distinct indentations in the cornice of the courthouse where the ropes had drawn taut, long remained as mute evidence of the lynching, and these were effaced only a few years ago by order of the county commissioners to remove the most public record of the action of the mob.

Concerning the murder of Mr. Cooper the Pullman Herald of October 20, 1893, carried the following story:

Catching the Murderer.

"Tuesday at 3:30 a. m. one of the most atrocious crimes ever perpetrated in Whitman county was committed in room No. 6 of the Artesian hotel.

"Amos B. Cooper was occupying that room in company with W. P. McKean, formerly of our city and who was here on a visit to Mr. Cooper. A few minutes after 3 o'clock they were awakened by hearing some one enter the room. Mr. Cooper jumped out of bed and grappled with the robber, when the cowardly assassin drew his pistol and, placing it to Mr. Cooper's left breast, fired, adding murder to his list of crimes. He then fled, and up to this time, has not been apprehended.

"Ten minutes after the crime was committed Marshal Murray had notified a number of citizens and a meeting was held at the city hall. All available men were called out and divided into posses of five, each posse under a captain, to search the town. A thorough search was made, but no evidence could be found. Several men were placed under guard and given a hearing, but as no evidence could be found against them, they were discharged.

"While the meeting was being held at the city hall the murderer took advantage of no one being at the hotel and threw away all the watches he had stolen and his instrument that he had used to enter the rooms, also the gun that he had used to commit the crime. The watches were found at the end of the alley that runs between the hotel and Sanborn's harness shop; the revolver was found about 25 feet from the watches. One of the watches had stopped one hour and five minutes after the crime was committed, which showed that the assassin had not left the building and that he, with the others in the house, had submitted to being searched after he had committed the murder.

A Clew Is Found.

"Not only had the murder killed Mr. Cooper, but he had robbed four or five other rooms before he committed his final crime. At each room he secured watches and other booty. In room No. 8, John K. Eacho of Colfax, deputy sheriff of Whitman county, was sleeping, and his watch and $8 in cash was taken from his clothes without waking him, as was the case in all the rooms until he came to Mr. Cooper's.

"At 9:30 o'clock Tuesday morning E. L. Newell noticed a package on the roof of Mr. Layman's lodging house, the second building south of the hotel. He secured it and found, wrapped in an old newspaper, $7:30 in silver, amongst which was an old Mexican dollar Mr. Cooper had carried for a pocket piece.

"The position of the things found and the discovery of a small oil can such as burglars use to oil the locks they wish to pick, in room No. 4, led the officers to suspicion George F. Parker, who was occupying that room at the time the crime was perpetrated. He was immediately placed under arrest and brought before the coroner's jury and examined, but as no conclusive evidence could be brought forward he was discharged.

"* * * Only one or two parties in the house heard the shot fired, as the gun was held so close to Mr. Cooper's breast that the report was smothered. Mr. Morrell, proprietor of the Office saloon, occupied the room directly over that of Mr. Cooper and although he heard the struggle and the call for help, he did not hear the report of the pistol. The ball entered the left breast and severed the left oracle of the heart, causing instant death. The gun used was a 38 caliber.

"Later—More evidence was found yesterday against George F. Parker and at a late hour last night he was arrested on a charge of murder."

Mob of 150 Men.

Pioneer citizens state that public feeling against Parker was high, and with completion of the testimony for the state there was a general feeling that the evidence was not sufficient to convict the defendants of first degree murder. Newspaper reports of the lynching placed the number composing the mob at between 150 and 200, and rumors were to the effect that several Whitman county towns were represented.

It was disclosed during the trial that Parker was a man of many aliases with a criminal record, having done time in both the Oregon and Washington penitentiaries. Following his death he was identified by Spokane officials as "James Coyle," a hardened criminal well known to the police of Spokane and other cities. Concerning the identification the Spokane Review of June 3, 1894, said in part:

Robbed During Spokane Fire.

"* * * His identity as Coyle, the sneak thief, safe burglar and vagrant, was not discovered until his worthless life had been taken by the mob. Before the fire Coyle served several terms for vagrancy, drunkenness and petty larceny. A month before the fire he accomplished the daring feat of stealing a carload of flour in broad daylight. * * * During the fire Coyle was one of the most persistent sneak thieves that infested the burned district.

"On one occasion Mayor Fred Furth detected him pilfering from the ruins. Police Sergeant McKernan was standing near. 'Run this man out of town,' the mayor said to McKernan. 'If he turns back beat him within an inch of his life. Jails are too much of a luxury to him.'"

The article relates how Coyle was run out of town by McKernan with a horsewhip and continues:

"A year later Coyle returned and stole a sealskin coat. He was arrested by Chief Harbord and served two years in the penitentiary for that. Again he came back. In January, 1893, he was arrested at the American resort by Officer Nelson for vagrancy and sentenced to 10 days in the city jail.

"When 'George F. Parker' was arrested at Pullman, no one thought of his being Coyle, but since his identity has been established there is plenty of corroborative evidence. It will be remembered that one point against him was that when every guest in the Artesian hotel was in the hallway at the first alarm after the discovery of Cooper's murder Parker remained in his room 30 minutes, burning papers in his little stove. That was brought out in the trial. 'That was Coyle to a T. He was just that kind of a fellow. He was as cool as a cucumber under all circumstances,' said Inspector Gough yesterday."

Criticise Mob Violence.

Ed Hill, the second victim of the mob, was serving a sentence for assault and battery. He was the son of respected parents residing near Garfield and was alleged to have killed Langford Summers, a G. A. R. veteran and marshal of Garfield, during a drunken brawl on November 5, 1892.

Hill was charged with the murder and by change of venue the case was taken to Columbia county. The evidence seemed sure to insure a verdict of at least second degree murder, but for some unaccountable reason the jury returned a verdict for assault and battery. Great indignation was felt over this finding in Whitman and adjoining counties, and severe criticisms were passed upon it, but it is unlikely, according to pioneers who were here at the time, that summary action would have been taken against Hill had not popular indignation again been aroused by the murder for which Parker was on trial.

Lynchings — 1922. Alabama.
Legal Punishment for Rape.

1045

GIRL'S ASSAULTERS CARRIED TO PRISON

Montgomery Advertiser 6/11/22

While passing through Montgomery, in the custody of a state transfer agent, Lonnie Riley and Lester Cole, convicted in the Bibb county circuit court last week for mistreating a 13 year old girl were committed to Kilby prison camp, Riley to begin serving their sentences. Riley is serving a sentence of 20 years and Cole a sentence of 10 years. No appeal was taken in either case to the higher courts of the state.

MOBILE NEGRO GETS EXTREME PENALTY

Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press)

MOBILE, ALA., June 29.—"Buster" Philips, negro, was convicted here today of the crime of criminal assault by a jury that was out five minutes in making up its verdict and sentenced to death by hanging. The victim in the case was an eight yeor old child. The court fixed August 18 as the date for the execution.

NEGRO CHARGED WITH ATTEMPT TO ASSAULT

Montgomery Advertiser

Calhoun County Court Fixes Bond at $5,000 For Tom Christopher

6-28-22

(Special to the Advertiser)

ANNISTON, ALA., Aug. 26.—Tom Christopher, Alexandria negro, was tried at a special session of the county court Friday on a charge of an attempted assault on the 13-year-old daughter of a farmer of Calhoun county and held to await grand jury action, his bond being fixed at $5,000 by Judge Thomas W. Coleman.

The alleged attack on the young girl occurred early Wednesday morning, it being reported at the time that a negro entered her room by passing through the room where her parents were sleeping and attacked her. The Christopher negro was arrested later in the week when another negro with whom he lived reported, it is claimed, that he had come home about 3 o'clock in the morning after being out all night.

INDICT 6 IN LYNCHING OF NEGRO DEC. 11

FORT WORTH TEX TELEGRAM
OCTOBER 1, 1922

HISTORY OF THE CASE.

Dec. 7—Fred Rouse, packing house strikebreaker, attacked by mob on Exchange Avenue, receiving injuries that caused him to be sent to City-County Hospital after he had shot and seriously wounded Tom and Tracy Maclin, brothers.

Dec. 11—Rouse taken from hospital and lynched.

Feb. 12—Three men charged with murder in connection with lynching, but no indictments returned.

Saturday—Six men indicted on murder charges.

Indictments against six men for murder in connection with the lynching of Fred Rouse, negro strikebreaker employed at a local packing house, on the night of Dec. 11, were returned Saturday afternoon in Criminal District Court.

With another grand jury having investigated the killing of the negro without returning charges, the hanging had been considered a closed incident. However, additional information which county officers recently received brought the indictments Saturday.

Here Are Defendants.

The defendants are: Tom Howell, Rock Island switchman; Bill Atherton and Henry Tiller, former Niles City policemen; Bud Madden, John Roberts and Bugger Red Cantrell, all of the North Side.

No arrests have yet been made. However, Attorney Will R. Parker, representing the men, said Saturday night that they will surrender early Monday prepared to make whatever bond District Attorney Brown will recommend.

It is charged in the indictments that the men "with malice aforethought" shot and killed Rouse.

Lynched by Mob.

During the packing house strike last Winter Rouse was employed by a local plant. A group of pickets met him as he left his work on Dec. 7. In a row that followed he was manhandled by a mob and was seriously injured. The negro, who was armed, shot and seriously injured Tom and Tracy Maclin.

Suffering from injuries inflicted by the mob, the negro was taken to the City-County Hospital. Six days later he was forcibly taken by about 30 men to a lonely spot on the road that leads from Samuels Avenue to the packing plants, near North Twelfth Street.

The negro was hanged to a tree and was riddled by bullets.

Three murder charges were filed in connection with the case Feb. 12, but no indictments were returned by one grand jury which investigated the lynching.

The Dallas *Express* noted the appearance of a news item in an obscure corner of a Texas daily, which stated that the chief of police, one of his assistants and three other citizens were expected to be arrested in connection with the lynching of a Negro, which occurred several months ago. It asked:

New York Age

Does this mean that Texas is waking from her lethargy and making ready to help "wipe the stain of barbaric lynching" from her banners? Or does it mean that the public will again be treated to the spectacle of "whitewashing" so commonly seen in such cases? We who have anxiously awaited some indication of a genuine desire to end the reign of barbarism and anarchy, as evidenced by the numerous lynchings which have occurred within her borders and gone unpunished, have long since learned that such reports are not to be made the basis for any high hopes. As yet such hopes have never been realized nor been proven justified. 10/21/22

But in spite of the attempts at camouflage, the nation, and Texas as a part of it will eventually realize that barbarism does not pay. If punishment by due process of law does not follow such outrages, the harvest must be reaped in increased lawlessness and more rapid growth of mob mind.

The conclusion reached by this Texas editor is confirmed by the fact that mob violence is no longer confined to race lines in his state. The mob as organized in the Ku Klux Klan attacks black and white alike.

Lynchings - 1922
Legal Punishment for Rape.

Arkansas.

1046

SENTENCED FOR ASSAULT.

Basil Brust Attacked Girl Who Accepted Ride, Charge Made.

PARAGOULD, Ark., Jan. 25.—Basil Brust of near Walcott, this county, was yesterday sentenced to the state penitentiary for life for criminal attack upon a girl. The alleged crime was committed last October. According to testimony by state witnesses the young man attacked the girl while she was going home with him in a buggy from one of the churches near Walcott. The girl had gone to the church to attend services, but without her knowledge, it was stated, the services had been cancelled. Brust, it is alleged, was at residence near the church and when the young woman came by he proposed to convey her home, and she consented to ride with him. The girl is alleged to have jumped from the vehicle following proposals by Brust, and was followed by him and criminally attacked. Testimony in the case was begun at the December term of court, and was completed Monday afternoon at an adjourned session. The case was given to the jury at 10 o'clock yesterday morning, and one hour later a verdict of guilty was returned. Brust was married on Dec. 24 to Miss Maie Arnold, a young woman of the Walcott neighborhood.

BRUST FILES APPEAL.

Was Given Life for Alleged Attack on Girl.

PARAGOULD, Ark., Jan. 27.—Basil Brust, the young man who was Tuesday sentenced to life imprisonment on the charge of criminal assault, has filed motion for an appeal to the state supreme court. Pending hearing on the motion, which is to be had Friday, Brust's bond was fixed at $15,000, which he failed to execute late yesterday. The object of Brust's alleged assault was a young girl, aged 15, whom he is alleged to have attacked as she was returning from school.

Lynchings - 1922

Legal Punishment for Rape

Georgia

1047

SUPREME COURT DISMISSES PLEA

W/y Pittsburgh

WASHINGTON, April 14.—The case of Jim Denson vs. the state of Georgia, which was brought to the supreme court of the United States on a writ of error, has been dismissed for want of jurisdiction, it was announced. American

According to the statement by the supreme court, the case was brought before the body on a writ of error, while the proper method of appeal should have been on a writ of certiorari. The hearing, which took place several days ago, attracted quite a bit of attention at the time, as counsel for the defense, John R. Cooper of Macon, used a plea charging jurymen with being controlled by the "subtle influence of the crowd." The case is one of alleged assault and originated in Wilkinson county where the defendant, a Negro, is under sentence of death.

MILLEDGEVILLE GA NEWS
JUNE 16, 1922

GOVERNOR REFUSES CLEMENCY TO NEGRO

Jim Denson, convicted negro murderer, who recently escapel from a mob in Wilkinson county which was bent on hanging him, and was later recaptured and placed in the Bibb county jail, will pay the penalty for his crime Friday when he will be hanged at Irwinton, it was announced Thursday.

Governor Hardwick, after listening to a plea for clemency from John R. Cooper, of Macon, who declared the negro's escape was an act of Providence which did not intend that the negro should hang, refused to intervene. Mr. Cooper further stated that the gallows which had been erected for the execution was blown down recently by the wind and that other intangible things had happened which pointed to Providence intervening.

ATLANTA GA EVE JOURNAL
JUNE 15, 1922

CLEMENCY REFUSED WILKINSON NEGRO

Governor Hardwick on Thursday refused to commute the death sentence of Jim Denson, a negro sentenced to hang in Wilkinson county next Friday for a criminal assault, and whose case attracted state-wide attention some weeks ago when he escaped from a mob which was preparing to lynch him.

Attorney John R. Cooper, of Macon, who represented the negro, appealed to Governor Hardwick to commute his sentence on the ground that providence had intervened to save him from the mob in a manner indicating clearly that it was not the will of God for the negro to pay the death penalty.

The circumstances of his escape from the mob furnished Attorney Cooper the basis for this appeal. Denson was in an automobile in the custody of members of the mob, and the autmobile was wrecked while running at high speed. Denson was projected out of the car 20 feet and was unhurt. He began running as soon as his feet touched the ground and was not recaptured by the mob, but after being at large for more than twenty-four hours, the sheriff of Wilkinson county recaptured him. He was sent to the Bibb county jail in Macon for safe-keeping.

Governor Hardwick issued a statement giving his reasons for refusing to commute the death sentence to life imprisonment. He called attention to the fact that Denson's case was appealed to the supreme court of Georgia, and the supreme court of the United States, and that both courts affirmed the verdict. He also referred to the fact that the prison commission nearly two years ago went into the merits of the case and refused to recommend commutation.

The circumstances of the negro's escape from the mob, Governor Hardwick declared in his statement, "have no bearing on the question of his guilt, and afford no reason for the exercise of clemency."

Further, Governor Hardwick declared:

"The guilt of the accused is certain. He confessed his guilt voluntarily soon after the crime, and described the details with circumstantiality. He assaulted a highly respected white woman more than seventy years of age. To my mind there is no excuse whatever for any further delay in the execution of the sentence of the law. Consequently, the application for clemency is hereby overruled and declined."

TEN-YEAR SENTENCE GIVEN FOR ASSAULT

Atlanta Constitution

Rome, Ga., August 1.—(Special.) In the case of Robert Harris, who has been on trial for the past two days for rape, the jury this afternoon brought in a verdict of guilty and the defendant was sentenced to ten years in the penitentiary as fixed by the jury.

8-2-22

The case of Captain M. C. Cudd, former Salvation Army captain in this city, charged with rape, was begun in the superior court this afternoon.

He is charged with assault on a girl placed in his charge for protection a few weeks ago.

While the alleged victim of the assault was testifying on the stand this afternoon she fell from the witness chair in a faint, and it took some time to resuscitate her.

The trial will probably consume all of tomorrow.

Lynchings — 1922. Minnesota.

Legal Punishment for Rape.

1048

Max Mason, in Lynch Scrape, Denied Appeal

Duluth, Minn., June 16.—Max Mason, who in June, 1920, was charged with assaulting a young white girl, was denied a new trial by the state supreme court Friday. Mason appealed from his conviction and sentence to life imprisonment in the St. Louis county district court on the ground that he was compelled to give evidence against himself before the grand jury. Justice Dibbell dissented.

Trial of Mason followed the lynching of three men, circus attendants, in Duluth in 1920 by a mob that had been told men in the circus had assaulted a young white woman. Much evidence was brought up later to show that the men had not troubled the girl and that the story told the mob had been made up by a young escort of hers who had kept her out too late at night. When she was scolded at home she laid claim to having been assaulted.

Thirteen men were placed in jail and seven tried. All save Mason were acquitted. Some of the best legal talent in the state went to the aid of the men, including Charles Scrutchins of Bemidji. Ferdinand Barnett of Chicago also fought for them.

Lynchings - 1922
Legal Punishment for Rape

Texas

1049

TRIAL OF NEGRO ON CHARGE OF ASSAULT HEARD

2/28/22

Woman and Companion Tell of Alleged Crime; Prisoner Claims Alibi

Houston Tex. Post

Following an all-day hearing Monday of testimony in the case of Luther Collins, negro, charged with a statutory offense against a white woman, the case was recessed until 9 a. m. today. A verdict is expected before noon.

The jury selection was not completed until 12:30 p. m.. Immediately following, however, pictures of the shack where the crime is alleged to have taken place were introduced by the defendant.

The white woman was first to testify. She asserted that a negro man, whom she believes to be Luther Collins, stopped her on Washington avenue on the night in question and, pointing a gun at her, demanded that she follow him.

Ross Traina was the second witness, and testified that he was standing on the corner of Washington avenue and Tenth street, waiting for a jitney, when he saw a negro he believed to be Luther Collins, approach the woman. He said that he went over to see what the trouble was, and that the woman asked him to help her. At that time, he said, the negro pointed his gun at him and demanded that he be quiet. He said that the negro then forced the woman and himself to walk ahead of him to a wood yard nearby, enter a shack that stood inside the yard, and there committed the assault.

At this time the defense brought out the point that no resistance, on the part of either the woman or her companion was offered the negro. The woman maintained that she was too excited to offer resistance.

W. A. Swain, restaurant proprietor, testified that the woman left his place about 7:45 or 8 p. m. on the evening of January 24, and came back in about 45 minutes and told him of the assault. He said he then called the police.

L. W. Merchant, a police officer, told of measuring the right foot print of the negro and of the peculiarities of the shoe the negro wore being identical with those of the shoe that made prints in the shack where the assault is said to have been committed.

Luther Collins next took the stand and testified as to his whereabouts at the time in question. He said he was at the house of Bell Gray, a negress, 1304 Cleveland street, between 7 and 10 p. m. C. W. Friend, a former employe of Collins, and Paul Bybee, his present employe, were the next witnesses and testified that Collins was peaceably inclined.

Hearing was being continued late Monday, with prospects for a verdict today.

Other witnesses were Al Williams, employe of the woodyard where the assault is said to have taken place; Police Captain A. Gale, who testified to having examined Collins on the night of the alleged assault, and Officer Davis, who told of having arrested Collins on a description.

Bell Gray, negress, 1304 Cleveland street, testified to having been questioned on the night in question, concerning the whereabouts of Collins. She stated that although she had told the officers who went to her house on the night of January 24, that she had not seen the negro at any time during the night, she was not at home at the time of night that Collins declared he was there.

Mahaley Smith, negress, also living at 1304 Cleveland street, took the stand and stated that Collins had been at her house on the night of January 24, from 7 p. m. until 10:30 p. m. She was questioned by the State as to why she knew the exact time of Collins' arrival, and replied that she was winding her watch when he arrived and noticed the hour on that account.

COLLINS GUILTY; NEGRO IS GIVEN DEATH SENTENCE

Two-Day Trial Ends in Conviction; Jury Out Nearly 5 Hours

Houston Tex. Post
3/1/22

Guilty, with penalty fixed at death.

This was the verdict rendered by a jury in criminal district court at 6 p. m. Tuesday after deliberating three hours and forty minutes in the case of Luther Collins, negro, charged with criminal assault on a white woman near Washington avenue and Tenth street on the night of January 24.

When the verdict was read, Collins heaved a sigh and walked to the rear of the court room with his counsel. Notice of appeal was not given at a late hour Tuesday afternoon.

Witnesses introduced by State and defense counsel both to break down and to establish an alibi, closed the testimony in the case which went to the jury at 2:30 p. m.

At 4:45 p. m. the jury sent out for a reading of the testimony of Ross Traina, alleged to have been with the woman on the night of January 24. Counsel for the defense objected to the re-reading of the testimony. Judge Robinson upheld the objection, instructing the jury to bring out a verdict to the best of their ability on the testimony in mind.

The court room was crowded to capacity Tuesday. Few women were present, due to the nature of the evidence introduced. Judge Robinson was forced to demand order several times and threatened to clear the court room on one occasion. Those in the room construed part of the proceedings as humorous, causing the judge's demand for order.

Last witnesses introduced by the State were George Steinbach proprietor of a bakery near Preston avenue and Tenth street, and M. Sullivan, 1106 Washington avenue, who lives at the same house where the woman boarded.

Both witnesses declared they saw Collins in the vicinity of Washington avenue and Tenth street, where the woman is alleged to have been accosted. Their testimony was in opposition to that introduced by defense counsel to show Collins was at 1304 Cleveland street on the night of January 24.

Steinbach told of a negro, declared by him to have been Luther Collins, coming into his bakery near Preston avenue and Tenth street, on the night of January 24. He said the negro was at the place about 7:30 p. m. and that he ordered and ate a piece of pie.

Sullivan said he was at the corner of Washington avenue and Tenth street until 7:50 p. m. January 25, and that he saw Luther Collins standing by a telephone pole in that location.

Earlier in the morning, defense counsel introduced several witnesses to prove Collins was at 1304 Cleveland street.

Irene Henderson, living on the third floor at 1304 Cleveland street, testified Collins was in the house from 7 p. m. to 10:30 p. m. Luella Brooks, also a negro, sustained the statements of the Henderson woman when placed on the stand.

Louis Kemp, negro, and A. D. Drew, negro, testified that Collins was in the restaurant on the ground floor of 1304 Cleveland street from about 6 p. m. until 10:30 p. m.

Testimony introduced Monday indicated the assault was alleged to have taken place near Washington avenue and Tenth street about 8 p. m. January 24.

Rangers Will Be in Waco During Negro Murder Trial

Houston Tex. Post
3/14/22

Associated Press Report.

AUSTIN, Texas, March 13.—A detachment of Texas rangers under the command of Captain Frank Hamer will be sent to Waco for the trial of Benny Young and Cooper Johnson, negroes, charged with murder in connection with the killing of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Barker and Homer Turk, Adjutant General Barton announced Monday. The trial starts March 23. The rangers will be armed with machine guns and high powered rifles, the adjutant said.

Lynchings-1922
Legal Punishment for Rape.

1050

Texas.

1050

NEGRO, UNFALTERING, WALKS TO GALLOWS AS PRISONERS SING

His Neck Broken, Man Convicted of Assault on White Woman Is Dead in 12 Minutes

PRISONERS VIEW DEATH PLUNGE AS 2,000 STAND OUTSIDE JAIL

San Antonio News 1/6/22

GOING calmly to his death, George McKinley Grace, 22, negro, was hanged in the Bexar County jail at 11:30 o'clock this morning with a protest of innocence on his lips.

Twelve minutes after the trap was sprung physicians pronounced Grace dead. His neck was broken.

Almost his last words were, "Mr. Tobin, I am innocent."

"God have mercy on our souls, then," replied Sheriff Tobin as he finished reading the death warrant, and began the march from the death cell through a wooden door into the execution chamber.

Grace took his place in the procession, marching unassisted, the four negro ministers—who later prayed—in front of him, and behind him the official hanging party.

He never faltered.

PRISONERS SING HYMN AS GRACE GOES TO DEATH

When his hands and feet were fastened, the noose was placed over his head. Floating up through the corridors from the floor below, the words of the sacred hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," reached the doomed man's ears.

It was the prisoners singing.

The noose was adjusted. The singing was stopped in mid-verse. An agonizing moan escaped Grace's quivering lips.

"All ready, Grace?" asked Sheriff Tobin.

But only a mumbled prayer came in response.

A signal. The steel doors clanged. The rope snapped.

A woman prisoner screamed, and there was silence.

On the second floor of the jail, less than 10 feet from the dangling form of the hanged man, more than a hundred prisoners pressed their faces against the bars. They had seen the body hurtle through the doors above. Among them were two men under sentence of death.

TWO THOUSAND PERSONS WAIT IN STREET

Beyond the jail yard, on Cameron Street more than 2,000 persons stood. They had waited from early morning in quiet anxiety. After the noise of the falling trap told them that Grace had paid the penalty they continued their vigil. Hundreds of negroes were there. Their upturned faces betrayed praying lips.

The crowd lingered until an ambulance moved slowly out of the jail yard bearing the body. Then it quietly dispersed.

GRACE PROMISES HE WILL "DIE LIKE A MAN."

"It's a sad task, but the only way I can avoid this is to resign," Sheriff Tobin told Grace before the march from the death cell to the gallows began.

"If you are innocent, then God have mercy on our souls," he replied when Grace declared he was not guilty of the crime which he was about to expiate.

"If, after your death, it develops that you have died an innocent man, you will have served your race to this extent," Sheriff Tobin said. "The decree of the court will have been upheld and the possibility of degrading mob violence averted."

"Help me in the performance of my duty, and for your own sake, die like a man," he continued.

"Die like a man, die like a man. Yes, sir. Die like a man. I will—die; God have mercy. I will," the doomed man muttered in a voice that was low and trembling with suppressed emotion.

TELLS JAILER THERE IS SOMETHING ON HIS MIND.

Outstanding among the events of the gray morning was a final conversation between Grace and Jailer John Wiatrick.

"There's something on my mind I would like to tell you, John," said Grace, "but I can't. My religion won't allow me."

That was all. The words were never explained, and Wiatrick pressed for no explanation.

The final scenes in the death cell were replete with pathos. The last meal; the last good-bye to his mother, his father and his friends; the reading of the death warrant and his protest of innocence; the holy communion, and finally the last prayer which found Grace on his knees on the floor of the cell, surrounded by four negro ministers, consumed the last two hours of his life.

He ate as usual of prison fare this morning, although he was given his choice of viands. The only difference he asked for was cream in his coffee, which ordinarily is served black. This request was granted.

A soft boiled egg, French fried potatoes, hot biscuits covered with butter, and coffee was his last meal. He ate heartily.

Sheriff Tobin pulled the trap that shoved Grace into eternity at 11:30 o'clock and he was pronounced dead by Dr. D. Berrey, County Physician, and his assistant, Dr. E. Elmendorf, and Justice of Peace Neil Campbell at 11:42 o'clock, or just 12 minutes later.

FUNERAL TO BE HELD ON SUNDAY

The body was turned over to funeral directors, who announced that although he will be buried Sunday, definite arrangements for the funeral have not been made.

Frantic eleventh hour attempts to get a respite for Grace were made by W. C. Linden, his attorney, and Governor Neff received a large number of letters and telegrams and long-distance telephone messages.

One San Antonio woman in a telegram to Governor Neff claimed that an anonymous letter confessing the crime for which Grace was hanged was received by Sheriff Tobin yesterday, and asked the Governor to grant a brief stay of execution for further investigation.

GOVERNOR DECLINES TO GRANT FURTHER RESPITE

One letter from Houston was addressed to "His Eminence, the Christian Governor of Texas."

Governor Neff's reply to Mr. Linden was that it seemed to him that two years of investigation, during which time Grace had two trials and was twice convicted and sentenced to death, was ample time in which to establish the truth, and that it would be useless to add a few more days for further investigation.

GRACE'S LAST MEAL

ALTHOUGH he was given the right to choose what he would eat this morning for his last meal, and what he would drink and smoke, Grace only asked that cream be added to his coffee and the regular prison fare served.

He ate three hot biscuits, a soft-boiled egg, French fried potatoes and butter, and drank coffee for breakfast, in the death cell.

His choice of things to drink was made when he knelt on the cement floor and partook of sacramental wine delivered by a negro minister.

Grace never smoked.

GRACE HANGED FOR ASSAULT ON WHITE WOMAN FEB. 24, 1920

FOLLOWING is the history of the George McKinley Grace case:

February 24, 1920: Criminal assault committed upon the person of a white woman, whose husband, a telegraph operator, worked at night, and was absent from the home, as her baby lay in a bed beside her own. The negro, a mulatto, had a long knife with which he threatened the lives of his victim and of her child, and with which the woman's arm was cut, so that it bled profusely upon the bed and upon the negro's underwear, as she struggled with her victim.

February 25, 1920: At 5 a. m., a few hours after the assault was committed, Grace, a mulatto, answering the description furnished by his victim, was arrested by city detectives at his home, and bloody underclothing found in his possession. Oral confession made an hour later. Grace was taken to scene of crime, and rehearsed it. Made written confession a little later.

February 26, 1920: Indicted by grand jury.

March 8, 1920: Placed on trial. Entered a plea of "Not Guilty," and repudiated confession.

March 11, 1920: Found guilty and death penalty assessed by the jury.

November 17, 1920: Case appealed to the Criminal Court of Appeals at Austin.

December 18, 1920: Case reversed and remanded for new trial by Criminal Court of Appeals on ground bloody clothing was incompetent as exhibit, and would tend to influence the minds of the jurors.

January 20, 1921: Placed on trial for the second time.

January 22, 1921: Jury returned verdict of guilty, and assessed death penalty.

November 25, 1921: Criminal Court of Appeals affirms decision of lower court.

November 29, 1921: Sentenced to be hanged between the hours of 11 in the morning and sunset. Execution set for January 6.

WOMAN'S CLUB NOT BEHIND PETITION OF HANGED NEGRO

CLUB IN NO WAY CONNECTED SAYS BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN RESOLUTIONS.

THE following resolutions were unanimously adopted by the board of directors of the Woman's Club this morning at 9:30 o'clock:

Whereas, statements have appeared in local papers which would tend to leave the impression that the Woman's Club of San Antonio had been connected with the recent petition sent to Governor Neff, asking commutation of the death sentence of George McKinley Grace, and

Whereas such impressions, if any, were without foundation,

Therefore, be it resolved, That we, the board of directors, wish to and do hereby publicly state the club was in no way connected with the petitions sent to Governor Neff by local women, asking commutation of the sentence imposed by the courts.

Signed, Mrs. J. T. Smith, president; Mrs. H. P. Drought, first vice president; Mrs. A. H. Worden, second vice president; Mrs. F. F. Stauffer, third vice president; Mrs. T. D. Anderson, fourth vice president; Mrs. Joe L. Hill, corresponding secretary; Mrs. Arch L. Henderson, recording secretary; Mrs. Dechman, treasurer; Mrs. R. R. Russell, director at large; Mrs. J. P. Lovelady, director at large; Mrs. Everett Love, chairman civic department.

Women Ask Governor to Hear Appeal

Chicago Defender 1/14/22

Austin, Texas, Jan. 6.—Governor Neff gave much of his time to hearing an appeal for commutation to life imprisonment of the death sentence of George McKinley Grace, who was twice convicted in the 37th District Court of Bexar county of an alleged criminal assault on a woman in San Antonio, and protests against executive clemency with a plea that the governor decline to interfere with the hanging of Grace, which is set for next Friday. The governor announced that he will not make a decision soon.

The governor heard the woman, on whom the assault was made, together with her husband, mother and other relatives. All united in a plea that no executive clemency be shown Grace, and that the law be allowed to take its course. The woman was questioned by the governor, particularly as to whether she was positive that the man under sentence of death was her assailant and she answered firmly that he is the man who attacked her.

The appeal for commutation of the death sentence to life imprisonment was signed by fourteen of San Antonio's prominent women, and it was presented to the governor by Mrs. Rena Maverick Green, Mrs. Harriet N. Leary and Mrs. Jennie Scott Griffiths, who were accompanied by former District Attorney W. C. Linden of Bexar county, attorney for Grace. The conference with the San Antonio women who have interested themselves in behalf of Grace to the extent of saving him from the gallows and with his attorney was held during the afternoon and consumed considerable time.

Commutation is asked on the grounds of newly discovered evidence and also that proof given by the state on the question of identification of Grace as being the man who committed the assault was insufficient to warrant the infliction of the extreme penalty provided by law.

TEXANS HAVE THEIR WAY

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 13.—George McKinley Grace, 22, alleged to have been implicated in an attack on a woman in 1920, was hanged in the Bexar county jail. Repeated efforts had been made to free Grace due to persistent rumors that he was not in any way involved in the crime, but at the last moment Governor Neff refused to intervene. One of the most prominent persons working in behalf of Grace was Miss M. Eleanor Brackenridge, sister of the late George W. Brackenridge, financier.

Chicago Defender 1/14/22

HANGING OF McKINLEY GRACE

2/22 K. Hamity's Harpoon

After waiting about two years, our constipated American goddess of Justice finally "got action," and McKinley Grace, a negro of San Antonio, was executed for a brutal outrage against a respectable white woman of San Antonio.

The Harpoon editor had many letters and 'phone calls, following the execution, giving him "pointers"—and a whole litter of "settlers"—about how to "write up," this deplorable tragedy—especially as regards the law's delays, etc., etc.

The Harpoon editor has been waging a continuous battle for 25 years, single-handed, along these identical lines, trying to arouse the people to the magnitude of danger—telling them that no white woman is safe, when left unprotected, and at the mercy of the negro rapist in the South—and trying my damndest to secure the aid and influence of the public, in doing something to put an end to this unbearable state of affairs.

The support I got leads me to the conclusion that the Southern people either do not appreciate the menace hanging over civilization—especially in the South—or haven't the nerve, to put an end to the continuous outrages and murders of American woman by some damnable, black *hijo de perro*, whose sole occupation is to parade the streets and watch the ladies pass by.

In the long-drawn-out trials of the nigger, McKinley Grace, two juries (of 12 good men each) decided he was guilty, and should be hung.

The wronged woman positively identified him—declaring she would "never forget that face, if I lived a thousand years"—and this positive identification, added to other strong and convincing proof of guilt, accounts for the verdict.

But here comes the trouble—the aftermath—that causes the moral effect to amount to nothing.

A considerable number of prominent society women of San Antonio got up a petition to the Governor to pardon that nigger—and even presented the petition in person.

Can you beat it?

Can you wonder that the lives and safety of every white woman in this country is in jeopardy every breath they draw?

Can you wonder that the towns and cities all over this country are filled with niggers, till the streets and alleys smell like a goat pen—and no white woman or young girl is safe, except when guarded?

And in case some helpless white woman gasps out her life in the clutches of one of these black beasts—and he is finally brought to justice—how in hell do you hope to teach other negro rapists a lesson, when the most prominent women in the country use every possible effort to prevent him being punished?

Personaly—I feel like calling off the dogs, and giving up the chase.

That's why I am not saying a word about the hanging of that miserable wretch—McKinley Grace.

What's the use?

Lynchings — 1922. Alabama

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1040

MOB MEMBERS MUST SERVE FOR KILLING

Alabama Supreme Court Upholds First Verdict.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 13.—Members of the Geneva County mob which killed Alpha Windham several months ago have failed in their effort to obtain new trials in the supreme court and court of appeals after verdicts of guilty were returned against them by juries in the Geneva circuit court.

The court of appeals affirmed the verdict of the lower court, which imposed a sentence of 15 years on Lige Durden, who was convicted of being an accomplice and conspirator with Dan Whitehead, Babe Whitehead and others in the murder of Windham.

It was charged that the Whiteheads, Durden and others entered into a conspiracy for the killing of Windham, and that as a result of this conspiracy Windham was killed. The two Whiteheads were given life sentences on the theory that they were the leaders, while Durden was convicted of murder in the second degree.

The defendants have made a hard fight to prevent the execution of the sentences, but have lost on each appeal.

The convictions in Geneva County are among the very few in Alabama where persons were accused of forming a mob.

Lynchings - 1922 Alabama.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1044

GUARDSMAN IS PUT ON TRIAL IN LYNCHING

Atlanta Georgian 1/10/22

First of Nine Members of Alabama Guard, All Charged With Murder, Faces Court

(By International News Service.)

HAMILTON, Ala., Jan. 9.—With State and defense attorneys prepared for one of the most hard-fought legal battles ever staged in Marion County, the trial of Sergt. Robert Lancaster, Alabama National Guardsman, charged jointly with eight other soldiers with murder in connection with the lynching of Will Baird, a coal miner, last January opened here Monday.

While the doors to the courtroom were not thrown open until 8 o'clock, this did not prevent a huge crowd from assembling soon after dawn, to be on hand when court opened.

Both legal factions anticipated difficulty in obtaining a jury. Attorneys predicted that the greater part of Monday would be taken up in impaneling a jury.

The lynching of Baird followed closely on the heels of the murder of Pvt. James Morris, a guardsman on sentry duty, the night of Dec. 23, 1920. Morris was shot and killed by Baird after the soldier is alleged to have shot and killed Rev. Adrian Northcutt, Baird's father-in-law.

Baird immediately surrendered and was placed in jail at Jasper. On the night of Jan. 13, 1921, two automobiles loaded with masked men drove up to the jail at Jasper, overpowered the jailor and took Baird from his cell to the outskirts of the city and shot him to death.

Two days later Lancaster and eight associates were arrested, charged with the crime. Lancaster was placed on trial charged with first degree murder several weeks later, but the case resulted in a mistrial.

The cases were called for trial a second time last July, but owing to the appearance of newspaper articles in a Marion County newspaper, before the case was called, the defense maintained the articles had prejudiced public opinion against the soldiers and requested a continuance.

The request was granted and a new date for the trial set for Jan. 9. The soldiers indicted jointly with Lancaster are: Joseph W. Key, William F. Hanby, Glenn L. Stephens, Roy Patton, Milburn Speed, James Franklin, Manly Sexton and Clarence Richardson. All of the men are from Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Judge A. E. Gamble, of Greenville, Ala., before whom the cases will be tried, has announced that nine days will be allowed for each of the trials if necessary. Solicitor Horace Wilkinson, of Birmingham, will conduct the cases for the State, while Senator A. H. Carmichael, of Tuscumbia, and several assistants will represent the defendants.

More than 100 witnesses have been summoned.

Prosecution Closes Case at Noon Wednesday; Guardsmen Say Wilkinson Threatened "To Jail Them If They Refused to Tell What They Knew"; Defense to Finish Friday

Montgomery Advertiser 1/9/22

(Special to The Advertiser)

HAMILTON, ALA., Jan. 11.—**Robert J. Lancaster, sergeant of Company M, Alabama National Guard, was asleep on his barracks cot at the time a masked mob was shooting to death William Baird, striking coal miner, who was taken from the Walker county jail at Jasper and killed on the morning of January 13, 1920.**

This was the testimony given before a Marion county jury here this afternoon by fellow soldiers of Lancaster, who is charged by the state with participation in the lynching.

The defense began its testimony by the construction of an alibi for the accused soldier. Defense testimony is expected to be concluded Friday, after which rebuttal testimony will be offered by the state, followed by arguments and the charge of Judge A. E. Gamble. Indications are that the case will go to the jury Saturday.

The state closed its case shortly after noon today, when the defense had its first inning.

B. G. Searcy, member of the detachment to which Lancaster belonged, told the jury he was on guard duty around the barracks during the hours in which the lynching is said to have taken place, and that he went to Lancaster's room on two occasions between midnight and four o'clock to replenish the fire. On both occasions the defendant was asleep on his cot, the witness declared.

Charges by former members of Company M, introduced by the state, that Horace C. Wilkinson, chief prosecuting attorney, had threatened soon after the lynching to jail them "if they did not come across and tell what they knew" were the sensational developments of the day.

Efforts were made by the defense to show by cross-examination that these witnesses had been intimidated into becoming state witnesses by officials in whose custody they were during the period between their removal from Townley following the lynching and during the first trial of Lancaster.

Refusal of Wilkinson to permit defense attorneys to examine stenographic reports of interrogations of a witness and his answers in the lawyer's office were sustained by the court.

A number of character witnesses from Tuscaloosa testified in behalf of Lancaster. Clyde Springer, member of Company M when Baird was lynched, was recalled to the stand this morning. He slept in the Townley barracks until four o'clock on the morning of the lynching, he said, when he was called for kitchen duty.

At breakfast, the witness testified, they heard that Baird had been taken from jail, but did not know that he had been killed. Lancaster laughingly said he "guessed he'd cut a notch in his gun," the witness said, and all were joking about the affair.

The witness said he was taken away the next night about two o'clock, first to the Jasper jail and later to Montgomery. On his return, he said, he was put in charge of Connie Austin and was under guard until after the first trial of Lancaster, to which he was brought under what he considered arrest.

He first told his story to Judge Wilkinson in Birmingham in the presence of Austin, Capt. Fleming and others he said.

After the first trial, Springer testified, he was relieved from duty. He denied he was cared for by the prosecution or the miners while he was seeking work at the Bankhead mines.

Springer was followed on the witness stand by Clyde Kitchen, another member of Company M, who testified that Lancaster and others lived in the same barracks with him at Townley at the time of the Baird killing.

That night he went to bed about 9:30 he testified, and got up at 5:30 the next morning. He did not see Lancaster during the night, he stetified. When witness got up Lancaster was in bed, he said, and got up about 6 o'clock.

Lancaster's pistol scabbard was muddy, the witness testified, that morning. Lancaster told witness he would get the shine boy to get the mud off. At that time, witness testified, he had not heard of Baird's killing. Lancaster's shoes were wet he said, and he sent someone to the supply room to get a dry pair for him. Witness was present when the law enforcement officers came, he said, and heard about the Baird lynching.

Later, in the supply room, he testified several soldiers, including Lancaster, were present, when Richardson read aloud an account of the lynching in a newspaper.

Questions by A. H. Carmichael, defense attorney, tending to elicit from the witness testimony regarding alleged dynamiting, killings and disorders by striking miners were objected to by the state. W. C. Davis, attorney for the prosecution, stated if the defense were to be allowed to open up this line of testimony the state wanted to show that the operators had hired gunmen and others to cause and keep up disorder.

Judge Gamble sustained objections to this line of testimony on the ground that it was not material to the case.

Kitchen admitted on cross-examination that he did not know whether Lancaster motioned to himself in connection with the lynching while the newspaper accounut was being read or to something else. He also admitted that it was not unusual for shoes and equipment of men to be muddy and that it had been raining the night before and was muddy everywhere. The witness testified that while in Birmingham after the removal from Townley and in Hamilton at the time of Lancaster's first trial, he and Robert Hall, Guy Cannon and Clyde Springer were in charge of Connie Austin and his law enforcement officers and considered themselves under arrest.

He testified that Judge Winkinson told him that he had to tell something and that he would put him in jail if he didn't make a statement. While in Hamilton at the first trial, he testified, he was in charge of the state officers and had to do what they said.

On redirect examination the witness testified that Judge Wilkinson told him he didn't want anything that was not true.

Robert Hall, member of the Townley detachment of Company M, testified to going on guard duty the morning of the lynching. Before going on post he went to Lancaster's room to put on his clothes. Lancaster was not in the room, but came in about the time the witness was dressed, he said. This was about 4:10, according to the best judgment of the witness. Lancaster said he was going to bed, and when he came in Lancaster was in full uniform, the witness testified.

When he came off post, the witness testified, Lancaster told him his shoes were muddy and asked the witness to get him others from the supply room, which he did. This was about 7:30, the witness said. Later in the day, according to Hall, he asked Lancaster about the Baird killing and he replied that he was not to ask any questions because the people around there might think the soldiers had something to do with it and it would be wise to refrain from talking about it. On cross-examination, the witness testified that while in Birmingham in Connie Austin's bedroom in the Empire hotel Judge Wilkinson came there and talked to him and Guy Cannon and others.

The last thing he said on that occasion was, as he pulled back the curtains and showed the witness the county jail, that he knew what the witness knew and if he didn't come across and tell it he would put him in jail and that all of Company M would be indicted before morning.

Judge Wilkinson never told or suggested to him to tell an untruth, he said.

At the conclusion of the testimony of Hall at noon, the state rested.

Lancaster, Before Jury in His Own Behalf, Denies Any Participation in Lynching of William Baird; Claims He Was Asleep at Time

Montgomery Advertiser 1/13/22

(Special to The Advertiser)

HAMILTON, ALA., Jan. 12.—**Blows were passed between Horace C. Wilkinson, special assistant attorney general in charge of the prosecution of Sergeant Robert Lancaster, charged with murder in connection with the lynching of William Baird, and Lieutenant L. B. McBride, witness for the defense, this afternoon on the street here.**

The fight is said to have grown out of a clash between the attorney and the witness in court earlier in the day, while McBride was testifying.

During cross-examination of McBride Wilkinson asked the witness if he did not make a certain statement at the former trial, reading from a stenographic report of the first trial.

"I don't know what was in that book, or what you put in it," was McBride's reply.

"Wilkinson jumped to his feet and told the judge: "I resent this witness insinuating that I put anything in this book. It is the official record of the former trial, and I intend to introduce it at the proper time. If he's make that statement out of court I'd knock his head off."

Late this afternoon, during a recess of court, according to witnesses, McBride accosted Wilkinson on the street and struck him. In the exchange of blows blood was drawn from the attorney's nose. They were separated by bystanders.

Absolute denial of any participation in the lynching of William Baird, striking miner near Jasper a year ago, was the answer this afternoon of Robert J. Lancaster, Alabama guardsman, to the state's charge of murder, on which he is being tried.

Lancaster took the stand in his own defense at 3:15 o'clock, and for more than an hour, under the guidance of A. H. Carmichael, of defense counsel, he related to the jury in detail his movements on the fatal night and told them that he slept on his barracks cot from midnight until morning.

Crowds of spectators packed the court room and hung over the railings as the accused soldier boy related his story and underwent a gruelling cross-examination at the hands of Horace C. Wilkinson, in charge of the prosecution. The crowd leaned forward when Carmichael asked the accused the witness the direct question of whether he and other guardsmen had entered the Jasper jail, taken Baird out and shot him to death.

Amid breathless silence, Sergeant Lancaster faced the twelve men who will decide his fate and in a clear voice, audible throughout the court room, answered:

"I did not."

The defense will close its case tomorrow morning, after which the state will offer rebuttal testimony and arguments of counsel will be made, followed by Judge Gamble's charge.

The case will likely go to the jury late tomorrow afternoon.

Sergeant Lancaster testified that he was called out with the 167th Infantry during the war and went to France with that outfit. When the mine strike started he said he lived in Tuscaloosa where he had gone subsequent to his discharge. He drove a taxi until he was called out on strike duty with

Company M, he testified. The barracks where his detachment was quartered was about three quarters of a mile from Townley, he said, and there were three posts, one at the barracks, another in Townley and a third at the junction point where the striking miners received supplies.

At eight o'clock the night of January 12, the defendant went on guard duty with his patrol, he said. From eight to twelve o'clock there was no one on guard at the barracks, he said, but he placed two men at the union joint. During the time he was required to be on duty he stayed around town and about twelve o'clock left and went to camp with his patrol, he stated.

Lancaster denied seeing Leslie West that night at Knox's Drug Store or elsewhere. Defendant took his patrol to camp via the railroad when it came off duty at midnight, to the union joint and thence by the road, he stated.

When he arrived there he got a drink of water and went to his room, Lancaster told the jury.

His cot was in the corner next to the fireplace, he testified, with the head nearest the fire. Sergeants Whitson and Thompson and Clyde Kitchen and Wesley Moore shared quarters with him, he said.

Lancaster then went to bed and slept throughout the night until awakened next morning by Lieutenant McBride, he testified. This was about 4:30, he said, and he got up at about 6:15. He denied asking anyone to clean a scabbard or send anyone for shoes. His shoes were wet from the rain in which he did duty until midnight, he said. Lancaster denied stating at breakfast that he was going to cut a notch on his gun, or that the man who told about the killing of Baird would follow him or that he pointed to himself as having killed Baird. After breakfast he returned to town to go on his regular guard, at 8 o'clock, he testified.

He denied ownership of any kid gloves or that he had ever worn them as testified by a states witness named Gewin or that he ever used an amber cigar holder. Gewin was an ardent union sympathizer, he testified. He also denied that Captain Lollar had told defendant to go anywhere at minight as testified to by a states witness named Alvis.

"Did you and your partol or other soldiers get in Leslie West's car and go to the union station and from there to camp and get the captain's car and return and go from there to Jasper with him that night and accompany him to the jail and wrapped in overcoats go into the jail and take William Baird out on the road and shoot him to death and then return to the barracks and disperse?"

"No, Sir I did not." This was defendant's answer to the question by A. H. Carmichael in denial of his alleged participation in the killing of Will Baird.

Shown an overcoat by Mr. Carmichael which was previously identified as being found boarded up behind the barracks walls and which bore the initials "R. L." the defendant identified it as one he had formerly owned but which he said he had exchanged for another some time prior to the date of Baird's death.

He denied any knowledge of clothes being behind the barracks wall or putting them there. On cross-examination he testified that several days before Baird's death he and others went to the jail at Jasper and saw Baird.

Kelly Watkins was the first witness called by the defense when court reconvened this morning. He testified he was a member of the Townley detachment of Company M, when Baird was killed. He testified that he was in the mess hall at breakfast the morning after the lynching and contradicted Clyde Springer states witness, who swore that Lancaster had said he would put a notch on his gun and that if anyone told he would follow Baird. Witness testified neither of these statements were made by Lancaster. Witness was on guard duty from 4 to 8 that morning, being awakened by Joe Keys, and neither saw nor heard any automobile enter or leave the barracks. The witness testified that Lancaster and Springer had no conversation with each other in the mess hall that morning.

Corporal Ernest B. True testified that on the night of the Baird killing he was on guard from 8 to 12 on Sergeant Lancaster's patrol in Townley. Coming off duty at Midnight, the witness said, he and several others went to the barracks followed by Lancaster and others. None of them got in the car of Leslie West or any other car, he testified. When witness got up at 6:30 Lancaster was dressing, he said. The car known as "the captain's car," was in front of the orderly room when witness came off duty, he testified, and during the night he neither saw nor heard any auto enter or leave camp. He testified that Knox's drug store, from which states witnesses had testified Lancaster and other soldiers left with Leslie West, closed at 9 o'clock, and all the lights were out when witness came off duty at 12 o'clock.

Robert Ingram, another member of the Townley detachment, testified that on the night of the lynching he went on guard duty at midnight on Sergeant Cox's patrol, coming off duty at 4 a. m.

He went to the barracks when he came off duty and went to bed, he testified. Witness did not see or hear any automobile leave or enter camp during the night. Knox's drug store was closed when the witness went on duty at midnight, he testified.

Sergt. S. K. Thompson testified he was on duty at Townley the night of the lynching. He was off duty, he said, and remained in the barracks, going to bed at 9:30, being awakened by a telephone message from Col. Dallas Smith, who asked for Captain Lollar and asked if all men were in quarters and to get them out and go to the Jasper road and stop all cars, then check all men.

He then awakened Lieutenant McBride, he testified, and they awakened the men. This was 4:35 by McBride's watch, he testified. Witness testified he saw "the captain's car" in front of the orderly room when he got up at 4:30. The witness was in the mess hall with Lancaster at breakfast and no statement about noting his gun or that whoever told would follow Baird were made by Lancaster, he said.

He was followed on the stand by Lieut. L. B. McBride, who testified that he was on duty at Townley the night of the Baird lynching and was asleep in the company barracks. He was awakened at 4:35 o'clock by Sergeant Thompson, he said. Witness went with him to the barracks houses and awakened the men and sent them to Sergeant Cox. He and Sergeant Thompson then checked the men together, all of the men being present. The witness found Lancaster asleep on his cot when he awakened the men, he said, and awakened him personally. On cross-examination he denied telling Springer to take Leslie West's car out and stick it in the mud and sending Springer in the captain's car to see West and tell him it was stuck. Burrell Quinn, supply sergeant of Company M, was then called.

Witness was at headquarters the night of Baird's death. He left Townley the day following the killing, leaving his supplies in the room, returning a month later. When he returned he said half of the supplies were missing. The rest, scattered over the entire room, and had apparently been tampered with. Men in the company were allowed to turn in old clothing for new ones, he testified. Prior to the Baird killing, he testified, Lancaster exchanged an overcoat.

A large number of witnesses from Tuscaloosa were sworn, and testified that they had known the defendant for varying periods and that his general character and reputation in the community in which he lived is good. Several of defendant's army associates also testified to his good character.

Capt. Matt H. Murphy testified that he was on the border with the defendant and later through the war in the same outfit, and that his character was good. Joe Whitson testified he slept in the room with Lancaster the night of the lynching. He was awakened when Searcy came off post to rebuild the fire, he testified, at 2:30, and some one was in Lancaster's cot. Witness was awakened by Lieutenant McBride, he testified, about 4:30, and saw Lancaster in bed.

THREE MEN INDICTED FOR JENKINS KILLING

Johnson, McLeod and Williams Under $5,000 Bond After Preliminary

(Special to The Advertiser)

EUFAULA, ALA., Jan. 20.—Amerine Johnson, Dozier McLeod and George Williams, three white men of Batesville, were placed under $5,000 bond, charged with shooting Willie Jenkins, negro, as the result of the preliminary hearing before the county probate court on Monday afternoon at the court house here.

Jenkins was alleged to have gone to the home of Mrs. George Williams at Batesville, using insulting language to her and threatening to kill her husband after a quarrel with Williams, the affair having occurred on January 10. The negro left afterward on the Central of Georgia train and got off at Georgetown, Ga., where it is alleged, he was overtaken by the three white men, who brought him back through the country and shot him five miles from Eufaula, between Eufaula and Batesville. His body was then taken about a mile and a half from the place where he was shot and placed in a discarded well, where it was found a few days later by Eufaula police.

The men gave bond and will be tried at the spring term of court.

ALABAMA ANTI-LYNCHING LAW.

Montgomery Advertiser 1/20/22

Governor Morrison, of South Carolina, gives some food for thought to the sectionalist, when he states the truth that in the South lynchings are never winked at by the authorities, and that the sentiment against lynching is profound and universal. Unfortunately as long as certain crimes are committed, some of our people will continue to lose their reason to punish instantly the criminal. Lynching will never be completely abolished until beastly criminals stop those crimes.

It is farcical to overturn or rather to ignore the Constitution by the so-called anti-lynching bill. This invasion of the reserved rights of the States is the product of bigotry and hatred. It will have the same fate, if the bill is finally passed, of all legislation founded on bigotry and hatred.

Alabama has the best law for stopping lynching of any State of the Union. That law is based upon what Governor Morrison calls "pronounced and universal" sentiment against lynching. The sheriff of any county in which a lynching occurs must immediately answer to the Governor. Unless he can prove to the satisfaction of the Governor that no human power could have protected his prisoner, he is immediately haled before the Supreme Court of the State and impeached for a criminal neglect in duty.

And, that law is rigorously enforced, too. Several Alabama sheriffs have been removed from office. In no case was it shown that they encouraged or winked at the lynching, but it was held that they had not been sufficiently zealous and energetic in the protection of their prisoner.

As a result lynching in Alabama has been reduced to a minimum. There are fewer lynchings in Alabama than in any State in which the two races live side by side. In truth, Alabama has led the way in making lynchings rare and infrequent.

COLORED MEN ACCUSED OF BRUTAL LYNCHING

St. Louis Argus Mo. 2/10/22

Special

BOLLINGER, Ala., Feb. 9.—For the first time in the history of this section of the state an effort is being made to fasten the crime of a brutal lynching and burning on Negroes, in the case of the murder of Drew C[illegible]nor, young white man, whose charred body was discovered in a woods near here December 26, last.

A total of fourteen persons have been arrested, most of whom are colored people. All are being held in custody while officers of the law endeavor to build a case against some of them. No reason was ascribed as to why the colored men should have wanted to lynch the mob's victim.

MEMBER OF MOB IN GENEVA LOSES APPEAL

Lige Durden Must Serve Fifteen Years For Death of Windham

Montgomery Advertiser 4/4/22

Found guilty of being members of the mob which several months ago killed Alto Windham in Geneva county, the defendants have met with failure both in the supreme court and court of appeals, in their efforts to secure new trials. Disposing Tuesday of the appeal of Lige Durden, convicted in connection with Windham's death, the Alabama court of appeals affirmed the sentence of 15 years' imprisonment imposed upon Durden by the trial court. Durden was found guilty of being a conspirator and accomplice with Babe Whitehead, Dan Whitehead and others, in Windham's murder.

Durden, the Whiteheads and others, it was charged, entered into a conspiracy which resulted in Windham's death. On the theory that they were the leaders in the affair, Dan Whitehead and Babe Whitehead were sentenced to life imprisonment. Durden, however, was convicted for murder in the second degree and sentenced to 15 years in the penitentiary.

In Durden's appeal, it was alleged that in the trial court, testimony was introduced by witnesses regarding conversations said to have taken place in Durden's absence, between members of the alleged mob. On the theory that when any defendant assented to the main purpose, mainly the murder of Windham, conversations leading to the commission of the crime, even in Durden's absence, were proper and that the admission of the testimony referred to was legal.

Another point raised by Durden, which was also raised by the Whiteheads in their appeal to the supreme court, was that the grand jury which indicted him was not legally impanelled, basing the contention on the ground that the legal residence of one person whose name was included in the panel was in the state of Florida. The decision of the supreme court in dismissing this point was followed by the court of appeals.

Lynchings — 1922. Arkansas.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1041

FIVE ARRESTED IN LYNCHING

Arkansas Men Are Accused of Murder in the First Degree.

TEXARKANA, Ark., June 10. — Five men were arrested and placed in jail here today, charged with murder in the first degree in connection with the lynching of Huley Owens, a negro, on May 19.

Owens was believed to have been slayer of Policeman Dick Choate.

Alleged Lynchers Out on Bail - Jail Conditions Bad

Texarkana, Ark., June 13.—The eight men arrested Saturday and Sunday following indictments charging first degree murder in connection with the lynching on May 19 of Huley Owens, Negro slayer of Policeman Dick Choate, are at liberty today on bonds of $5000 each.

Because of condition of the county jail, which was wrecked during the lynching disorders, the men were allowed to stay in local rooming houses under the supervision of armed guards. The date of the trial is set for July 5.

Trial of Nine Alleged Lynchers Is Postponed

(Associated Press Report.)

TEXARKANA, Ark., July 5.—Trial of the nine murder cases growing out of the lynching here on May 19, of Hulen Owens, negro, slayer of R. C. Choate, Texarkana, Ark., police officer, Wednesday was continued until the November term of the Miller circuit court on motion of States Attorney Luke Monroe, who stated that the principal State witness was not now available.

The nine indicted for the murder in the first degree, as a result of the lynching are John Elmore, Joe Carter, Dick Farr, Nick Hightower, D. E. Burns, Will Mays, Joe Ransom, Dave Orr and L. V. Hill. The defendants, through their attorney, had announced ready for trial. All of the defendants are free under $5,000 bonds, each.

ALLEGED LYNCHERS' TRIAL DECEMBER 14

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

Nine Men Are Accused of Causing Negro's Death.

12-9-22

TEXARKANA, Ark., Dec. 8.—Jame D. Head, one of the ablest lawyers of the Texarkana bar, has been retained to assist the state's attorney in the prosecution of the nine white men under indictment for the lynching of Huley Owens, negro, who was taken from the Miller County, Ark., jail and shot to death by a mob on the night of May 19, after the negro earlier in the day had shot and killed Dick Choate, an Arkansas side policeman. After killing the negro the mob burned the body on the public street near the Union Depot.

Today the court made an order, on motion of the defense, that the state file a list of its witnesses who are expected to testify at the hearing. The indictment showed the name of only one witness, a man named Simmons, and the defendants' attorney said all efforts to locate that witness had failed. It is known that the defense will seek to have the cases continued until the next term of court, when they are called for trial next Tuesday, but it is believed the state will insist on disposing of them at the present term.

LYNCHING TRIAL POSTPONED.

Commercial Appeal Memphis, Tenn.

TEXARKANA, Ark., Dec. 5.—Trial of the nine men indicted for murder following the lynching of Hulen Owens, negro, here last May, scheduled to begin in circuit court tomorrow, has been postponed until December 14. An overcrowded docket made it impossible to begin the trials tomorrow, the court announced. Owens was lynched and his body burned after he was alleged to have killed Dick Choate, Arkansas police officer.

12-6-22

TRIAL IS POSTPONED

Lynching Cases Continued to December 14

Memphis Commercial Appeal 12-6-22

(Associated Press)

TEXARKANA, ARK., Dec. 5.—Trial of the nine men indicted for murder following the lynching of Hulen Owens, negro, last May, scheduled to begin in circuit court tomorrow, has been postponed until December 14. An overcrowded docket made it impossible to begin the trials tomorrow, the court announced. Owens was lynched and his body burned after he is alleged to have killed Dick Choate, Arkansas, police officer.

Lynchings-1922

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia

1042

JUDGE GIVES ORDER TO PROTECT NEGRO

Atlanta Constitution May 28 '22

Asbury McCluskey, of Barrow County, Files $50,000 Suit Against Alleged Mob Members.

Acting on a sensational plea filed by Asbury McCluskey, a negro who lives near Statham, Barrow county, in which he alleged that he was shot and wounded by a mob and driven from his home, Judge Blanton Fortson, of Athens, Saturday granted a temporary injunction restraining Jim Johnson, Mathew Stinchcomb and Guy Thurmond, who live near Statham, from further interference or molestation of the negro. A short time later McCluskey, through his attorney, W. C. Mundy, of Atlanta, filed suit for $50,000 damages against the three white men and asked permission of the court to include the names of other members of the mob as soon as their names could be ascertained.

5-28-22

McCluskey alleged in his petition that the mob visited him on the night of May 5 and said there were fifteen in the party, all masked. He declared he recognized Johnson, Stinchcomb and Thurmond. He said the mob came to his house and demanded admission. On being refused admission he said the members of the mob shot into the house, broke down his door with an ax, shot him in the arm, attacked and beat his wife and three minor children and shot twenty-eight bullets into the walls of the room. He said he had been warned to leave that section and that he did so, being forced now to live in another county leaving his crops untended and his farm valued at $40,000 going to waste.

The petition was presented to Judge Fortson, at Athens, Saturday, by Attorney Munday, and the temporary restraining order was at once granted. Attorney Munday then went to Winder where he filed the suit for $50,000 damages against the three white men.

Is Revolting Story.

In the petition of the negro McCluskey, a story of intimidation and brutality is told that is one of the most revolting related in Georgia in years. He swears in his petition that after he had been shot by the mob the members beat him and maltreated him, terrorized his wife and children and warned him to leave the country under threats of death if he remained.

McCluskey said the enmity against him grew out of the argument he had in July, 1921, with a son of Jim Johnson. McCluskey said this son rode a mile "ruthlessly over the crops" anad destroyed them. He said afte this argument he was advised to leave home and did so for a short period, declaring that he returned only after prominent white men had gone to and asked him not to molest McCluskey.

McCluskey charged that Stinchcomb and Thurmond are friends and business associates of Johnson. He said Stinchcomb had an execution against the property of a negro named George Mack and levied against this property. Included in the property was an organ which Laura Mack, daughter of George Mack, claimed as her property. McCluskey said he signed a bond for the return of this property to the court whenever called for and that this transaction took place on May 5 and on that night the attack was made on him.

Charges Murder Threat.

McCluskey said he met Thurmond after signing the bond, and that Thurmond told him he would soon be dead. McCluskey said the mob came to his house that night, and that he positively identified Johnson, Stinchcomb and Thurmond. After leaving his house the mob went to the home of George Mack and beat him. At Mack's home McCluskey said one of the mob members announced that when McCluskey signed the bond he signed "his own death warrant."

Continuing, McCluskey alleged that he left his home that night and has not been able to return since. He charges that he has been forced to leave his crop untended for three weeks, and that his crop is worth from $4,000 to $5,000 each year.

McCluskey declares that he has the right to live at his home with his family and said unless he is allowed to return he will suffer irreparable loss. For this reason he asked for the injunction restraining the three white men from molesting him. He also charges that he had been crippled for life, his earning power impaired, his crops and home damaged and for this reason seeks $50,000 in damages.

Lynchings — 1922
Legal punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia.

1043

MURDER CHARGED TO TWO OFFICERS IN LYNCHING CASE

Atlanta Constitution

Police Chief of Jesup and Wayne Deputy Among Five Indicted in Double Lynching.

9/23/22

NEGROES LYNCHED WERE UNDER REPRIEVE

Indictments Name I. W. and "Dock" Rhoden, J. R. Tyre, Bob Price and Carl Stuart.

Hinesville, Ga., September 22.—(Special.) — Indictments charging murder in connection with the lynching of two negroes were returned here today by the Liberty county grand jury against five residents of Wayne county, including Chief of Police I. W. Rhoden, of Jesup, and Deputy Sheriff J. R. Tyre, of Wayne county.

Others indicted are the chief's brother, "Dock" Rhoden, of Jesup, and Brunswick; Bob L. Price, of Wayne county, and Carl Stuart, now supposed to be in Telfair county.

This is the first time that indictments have been secured against alleged members of a mob in southeast Georgia. The lynching occurred the night of June 30, near Old Midway, in this county.

The negroes, James Harvey and Joe Jordan, were under sentence of death following their trial for murder. They had been reprieved by Governor Hardwick and were on their way to Savannah, to be held for safekeeping. They were taken from the officers and hanged. The lynching created a widespread feeling of indignation in Liberty county.

Inquiry into the lynching was ordered by Judge W. W. Sheppard Tuesday at the opening of the fall term of Liberty county superior court. The fact that the prisoners had been reprieved by Governor Hardwick, on the ground of the discovery of new evidence, gave the prisoners the status of wards of the state. According to the judge's charge to the jury their murder while under the protection of the state was a particularly dangerous outrage against government.

Solicitor J. S. Daniels was in charge of the prosecution before the grand jury today. With the co-operation of other county officers he had previously investigated the lynching.

RELEASE FOUR IN GEORGIA ON LYNCH CHARGE

State Prosecutor Points to Witnesses as Responsible for Defeating Justice

Chicago Defender
9/23/22

Forsyth, Ga., Sept. 22.—Four men charged with murder in connection with the lynching of John Glover Aug. 1, were freed by a jury in the Monroe superior court here.

The four men were Troy Raines, Nathan Unice, Gordon Herndon and Hector L. McSwain. The jury was out only 30 minutes before returning a verdict of not guilty. The state accused the men of being ringleaders of the mob which took their victim from the officers after he had been identified as the slayer of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd of Bibb county and two men of his Race.

According to the testimony of the defendants they were at the scene of the lynching, of course, but they were "unarmed." Just there, they said, "to aid the officers in carrying out the law." They were anxious to help because a "death gang had been killing Bibb county officers and had paid Glover to slay Byrd and they wanted to find out who the gang leaders were."

Witnesses for the state altered their testimony to the extent that Solicitor General Owens in his argument before the jury declared that the state's witnesses had presented to the jury "the most changed evidence I have ever seen."

PERJURY CHARGED IN LYNCHING CASE

Atlanta Constitution
9-12-22

Charges That Evidence Is Contradictory and Witnesses Are Intimidated Made by Solicitor.

Macon, Gr., September 11.—(Special).—Trial of the four Macon men charged with murder in connection with the lynching of John Glover, negro, may be stopped to take up perjury charges against witnesses appearing before the Monroe county grand jury, it was threatened today by Solicitor-General Emmett Owens.

The solicitor declared that some of the evidence given the grand jury at Forsyth today was greatly contradictory to that given before the Bibb jury a few weeks ago.

He openly charged that some of the state's witnesses were being intimidated.

The four men are being tried together. They are Troy Raines, Gordon Herndon, Nathan Unice and H. L. McSwain. Following the solicitor's charges, it was understood a move toward perjury proceedings will be made either late tomorrow or before the trial comes to an end some time Wednesday.

Solicitor-General Charles H. Garrett, of Macon, assisted Mr. Owens in the prosecution. Mr. Garrett did not take an active part in the trial other than to arrange the various questions propounded to the witnesses when they appeared before the Bibb county jury for Mr. Owens to ask them while they were on the stand today.

It was plain that some of the evidence today aroused Mr. Garrett's suspicions, although he declined to discuss the matter. It was learned that one of the witnesses placed on the stand today had told the Bibb grand jury that he saw Troy Raines take part in the shooting of the negro. Today he stated that he did not know Mr. Raines and the man who was pointed out to him to be Mr. Raines by some of his friends after they left the lynching scene did not prove to be the defendant on trial.

There were several other major discrepancies, the state charges, in the statements of this witness and two others, as to the conversations and the actions of the defendants at the scene of the lynching.

LYNCHING PROBE BEGUN IN WAYNE

Judge Sheppard Asks Jury to Make Sweeping Investigation Into Deaths of Two Negroes.

Atlanta

Hinesville, Ga., September 19.—(Special.)—Searching inquiry into the lynching of two Wayne county negroes in July was ordered by Judge W. W. Sheppard at the opening of the fall term of superior court of Liberty county.

9/20/22

The fact that these men had been reprieved by Governor Hardwick to grant time for hearing a motion for new trial, on the ground of discovery of new evidence, gave the prisoners the status of wards of the state. According to the judge's charge, "their murder while under the protection of the law was a particularly dangerous outrage against government."

The prevailing opinion is that the mob was not composed of citizens of Liberty county. Immediately after this lynching there was a storm of public protest over the occurrence, which was the first of its kind ever to occur within the county.

Solicitor J. S. Daniels will be in charge of the prosecution of the cases. It is understood that, with the co-operation of county authorities, he has made a thorough investigation of the lynching.

The following are members of the grand jury: A. B. Brewer, foreman; F. E. Miller, J. O. Rahn, O. C. Martin, Sloeman Ashmore, C. J. Martin, Jr., C. W. Fraser, F. W. King, J. A. Jackson, D. H. Smiley, P. F. Martin, J. B. McCall, W. P. L. Girardeau, J. I. Daniel, L. E. Stafford, C E. Stafford, M. C. Rustin, T. S. Layton, Bazie Dasher, J. W. Caswell, H. C. Saunders, B. E. Stubbs, H. E. Strickland.

GEORGIA RACE RELATIONS MADE BETTER BY COMMISSION'S WORK; SEVERAL LYNCHERS INDICTED

Houston Informer, Houston, Texas, 11-25-22

Twenty-two Lynchers Indicted in Georgia this Year—Four Convicted, Fifteen to Be Tried—One Indictment in Previous 37 Years—Race Relations Committee Seeks Better Anti-Lynching Law—Eminent Jurists Appointed to Draft It.

Special to The Informer.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 22.—That there has been a surprising increase of anti-lynching sentiment in Georgia recently and a growing determination on the part of Georgia people that the sanctity of the law must be upheld, was clearly indicated in reports made to the state committee on race relations in its recent semi-annual meeting in this city.

It was pointed out that during the present year twenty-two indictments have been returned against alleged lynchers and four convictions secured, carrying penitentiary sentences. Fifteen of these cases are still to be tried, most of them on the charge of murder, besides a number of damage suits growing out of injuries and losses inflicted by mobs. In one lynching case both the deputy sheriff and the chief of police are under indictment.

The significance of these facts was emphasized by the statement that in the 37 years ending with 1921 there had been 430 lynchings in Georgia and that record of only one indictment in all that time had been found.

The state and county race relations committees have been active in a number of recent cases, conducting investigations, securing evidence, and otherwise supporting local officials in their efforts to vindicate the law.

The need of an effective anti-lynching law in the state was stressed and the responsibility for drafting and getting such a bill before the next legislature was delegated to a committee of eminent jurists headed by Judge Samuel B. Adams of Savannah.

Lynchings — 1922. Georgia

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1035

AMERICUS GA RECORDER
FEBRUARY 17, 1922

FRIDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 17, 1922 PRICE FIVE CENTS. EDITION

SEEK SHERIFF'S REMOVAL

SAY OFFICIAL HAS FAILED TO DO DUTY IN LYNCHING ACCUSATIONS

Declare He Made No Effort To Make Arrests When Men Could Have Been Caught And Is Suspected Of Aiding Their Escape—Reward Of $100 Each For Capture Of Men Offered By Commissioners To Bailiff Who Fails To Tackle Roundup After Boasting His Readiness

That Sheriff R. E. Battle, of Schley county, has grossly failed in his duty in connection with the lynching of the negro Will Jones, near the Lowe settlement and that he is seriously suspected of having assisted some of the men for whom he carries warrants charging murder with escaping, is the charge openly made by citizens everywhere in Ellaville—citizens representing the town and country as well. So indignant are the people that it is freely predicted that the coming grand jury, which will meet at the beginning of the Superior court term in April, will call upon Governor Hardwick to revoke te sheriff's commssion, the power to vacate his office. It is known that citizens have approached members of the county board with the suggestion that it take steps to oust him, and the board has been advised that it had not the autority to take any such action. It developed today, however, that the sheriff could be ousted only by a jury in Superior court after due trial.

The indignation of the citizens against the sheriff results from the following allegations given by citizens to The Times-Recorder:

It was more than two hours after he was notified of the last shooting of the negro Jones that Sheriff Battle would make any effort to proceed to the scene and discover what had happened:

Warrants for four of the nine accused men were issued by the coroner Monday afternoon, three of them being the two soldiers who were strangers in the community and a third being George Phillips. No attempt was made to serve them that day or night, and the two soldiers remained in the neighborhood of the lynching, where they had been camped for several days, until 8 or 9 o'clock Tuesday morning, when they started for Oglethorpe. Phillips was also seen Tuesday morning.

Tuesday afternoon, with warrants for the arrest of Arthur, Bennie and John DeVane in his pocket, Sheriff Battle was seen to engage their father, Joe DeVane, a farmer, in earnest conversation for some time in an Ellaville garage before having made any ttempt to serve the warrants. In fact, no visit to the DeVane homes was made until Thursday, it is said, the sheriff going to the home of Bennie DeVane, who was wounded, and finding him there, where he had been all the time and placing him under arrest, and also placing a guard over Henry Harvey, another of the accused, who was also wounded, slightly more seriously than DeVane.

Sheriff Battle, although knowing the details of the lynching, or at least most of them, and having brought the dying negro to jail, did not attend the inquest at the courthouse, but his deputy, Bailiff Carter, attended instead. The members of the mob appeaerd on the streets of Ellaville before the lynching and afterward with guns strapped on them openly and were not molested.

Those are some of the things the citizens are telling and condemning.

"Virtually we have no sheriff, or worse than none," said one prominent citizen who, like the others interviewed, asked that for obvious reasons his name not be published at this time. "It it impossible or next to imposible to get a paper served in this county. Most of our lawlessness and crime come from lack of inefficient enforcing officers. The bootleggers and liquor makers know they will not be touched and work openly."

All of which was very interesting to the Times-Recorder representatives who visited Ellaville last evening for the purpose of learning the truth of the situation and uncovering some facts that had not yet been disclosed in connection with the case. Among other things the following facts were adduced:

New Developments.

The negro, Will Jones, was shot through the body at his home Sunday night at the time of the visit of Bennie DeVane, Harvey and others at his home, the wound having been pronounced by the county physician afterwards as sufficient to have caused death in itself. It was from this fact that the two wounded men were charged with murder, although they did not participate in the mob.

Jones, before his death and after the shooting by the mob, which left him for dead, made dying statements to County Commissioner Williamson and Mayor Rogers Williams, in which he is alleged to have given the names of several well known men as members of the party which attacked him at the time he shot the two white men at his home. These men were not members of the mob of Monday, and it is possible accusations may be drawn against them before the coming grand jury.

The county commissioners Tuesday evening, seeing that Sheriff Battle had made no apparent effort to serve the warrants, some of them held for more than 24 hours, offered secretly a reward of $100 each for the arrest of the nine men, making the offer to Bailiff Carter, who approached members of the board and made the statement that he would make the arrests if paid to do so. He said he would get all the accused men if it took all week, and would start that night. But he did not go, later reporting that he was unable to get to accompany him a man he had depended upon. This reward was never publicly announced, but still stands, according to A. C. Murray, chairman of the county board.

Shortly after the arrest of Bennie DeVane yesterday afternoon at his home three miles north of Ellaville, representatives of the Times-Recorder obtained from Sheriff Battle permission to interview the prisoner at the jail. Before admitting the newsmen Sheriff Battle made a trip alone to where the prisoner was located, and shortly returned and told the visitors they could then see DeVane. What he said to the prisoner before the newspaper men were admitted was not disclosed, but it was apparent that the two were on friendly terms, and it was marked that DeVane declined to talk on any subject connected with his case, apparently on someone's advice. That this was not upon the advice of his attorney was established by his statement that he had no attorney as yet, but he expressed the expectation that he would have one soon.

DeVane 33 Years Old.

DeVane, who said he was 33 years of age, sat huddled up on a chair before a stove in the jail corridor. On the other side of the warm stove, but inside an unlocked cell, sat three young negro burglars, his only companions in the jail. DeVane was unshaven and weary-eyed. His left hand was bandaged into a large bundle with a cloth resembling a large blue handkerchief bound around it. The hand lay helplessly in his lap. It was the wound Will Jones had made with his shot gun after he had been shot at his home Sunday night.

DeVane said there were 80 or more good sized shot in his arm, and at that time it pained him "right smart." He was informed the reporters would like to hear his side of the incidents that had resulted in him being in trouble. His eyes feebly rolled without other than a slight expression as of mingled pain and fear, and he replied after some hesitation, "I reckon y'all will hear more about

that at the trial.

He was asked what the negro Jones had said that led to the visit of the mob to his home, what the mob wanted with him, and where he went after the shooting, and to all he gave the same answer. Regarding himself and his family he would reply to questions briefly. He said he was married and had two small children; that he is the middle in age of the three accused brothers, John being the youngest and Arthur the oldest, and that they live on farms owned by their father. He remembered Bob Glover, chief clerk in the Americus postoffice, who was formerly a school teacher in Schley county, to whom Arthur and John DeVane went as pupils.

After the interview had progressed about to its limit, Sheriff Battle told DeVane to go inside the cell for the night, which he did, handing his chair which he occupied in the corridor to one of the negro prisoners and telling the negroes to look after the white prisoner who was practically helpless because of his wounded left hand. The reporters left assuring the prisoner that they would be glad at any time to publish his side of the story exactly as he gave it.

Calls Harvey Good Man.

Sheriff Battle was courteous to the reporters and even assisted DeVane in answering several questions. He said he had found DeVane at home on his first trip there, and that he had visited the home of all the other accused men and had been unable to locate any of them except Harvey.

During the conversation in the jail someone mentioned the name of Bob Harvey, of the Times-Recorder, who was present as a spectator. Sheriff Battle asked if Mr. Harvey was related to Henry Harvey, accused member of the mob. Someone laughed which caused Sheriff Battle to remark this this was nothing to laugh at, as Henry Harvey was a good man.

Henry Harvey is shot in the right side of the back and back of the right arm, with about as many shots as penetrated DeVane's arm and hand. According to the story told by the negro Jones to Bob F. Allen who gave the principal evidence before the coroner's jury, DeVane stood on one side of his back door on the night of their visit to his home and Harvey on the other and as he came out fleeing when others started to break in at his front door they both shot at him, one of them shooting him through the body. The negro carried a single barrelled shot gun, and fired first at DeVane. DeVane yelled that he was shot, and just as the negro slipped the second shell into his gun Harvey turned and started to run away toward DeVane. Jones fired and the charge struck Harvey in the back.

That was between 10 and 11 o'clock Sunday night, it is said. About midnight DeVane and Harvey were both brought to the office of Dr. J. F. Stewart in Ellaville for treatment of their wounds. Just who brought them has not been disclosed. Dr. Stewart is still treating DeVane and Dr. B. L. Bridges is now treating Harvey. Dr. Bridges stated yesterday that Harvey would soon be well, the period for the development of pneumonia which he feared having passed. It is believed Harvey will be brought to jail within a day or two to join Bennie DeVane. He is now guarded by a bailiff.

The Point of Mystery.

No one appears to know any reason why the mob, half of whom it is said were different persons from the nine who conducted the lynching Monday, went to Will Jones' home Sunday night or for what purpose, or those who do know will not say. Anyhow, they went. Jones lived on a farm occupied by Mrs. Fulford, mother-in-law of Bennie DeVane, some distance from the DeVane neighborhood. One rumor is that Jones had made an innocent remark concerning the incident of two weeks previous when Floyd Flournoy, a negro from Tazewell, insulted Mrs. John DeVane on the highway near her home by asking her to ride in his buggy, Flournoy being subsequently arrested by a posse, jailed at Ellaville, then taken to Columbus for safekeeping, where he is now held. Another version of the origin of the trouble is that Jones who was a thrifty farmer and a good citizen, did not approve of the liquor traffic and was suspected of giving out too much information for the pleasure of the DeVanes and others.

Jones was in bed when the mob came at his home Sunday night, according to the story he told R. F. Allen after the first shooting at his home. He said someone knocked at his door and asked for an auto tire patch. He replied he had none, but that possibly Mrs. Fulford, his landlady, had one. After a time another knock was heard and a voice asked for a lanters. Jones replied he had none. Silence again. Then came a request for a match and [illegible] the door. Then a voice called him to come out, that it was he who was wanted. Frightened, he declined. His front door was then attacked by several men. Knowing they would soon break in, he grabbed his shot gun and ran out the back door. As he did so he was shot and in turn shot Bennie DeVane and Harvey.

Negro Asks Shelter.

Making his way wounded to the farm of R. F. Allen not far away, he stopped at the home of one of Mr. Allen's negroes and asked him for shelter. The negro, seeing there had been trouble and hearing Jones' story, was himself frightened, fearing a mob would be pursuing Jones and would find him there and accuse him of giving the fugitve shelter. So he ran to Mr. Allen's home for help in getting rid of Jones. Mr. Allen responded and asked Jones' father-in-law nearby to take care of Jones, but that relative possessed of the same fears as the other negro, refused to have anything to do with Jones. It was then that Jones requested Mr. Allen to take him to the home of his uncle, Tick Hart, near La Crosse, which Mr. Allen did.

[illegible] Allen went to Ella- where he informed Cullen Bat- local merchant and cousin of Battle, of what had trans-

In the meantime the mob that lynched Jones had been organized and was searching the Allen neighborhood for him. Cullen Battle according to information, sent word to the mob that it was no use to search there for the negro any further as he had been taken away from the neighborhood. He told they didn't know where, but that Allen knew. Shortly the mob assembled in Ellaville, quickly located Allen, according to the story, forced him at the point of pistols to pilot them to the negro's hiding place.

[illegible] were seen to approach a small house some distance from the road and then firing was heard as if they were driving the occupants out of the house. Then there was silence, followed by a new and greater fusilade of firing volume. Then the mob started for town.

[illegible] City Commissioner Williamson and Mayor Williams, hearing of the lynching, went to the scene and found the negro where he had been left for dead. He was well riddled with bullets but it was said the number of wounds did not well correspond with the number of shots heard, indicating that there were some poor marksmen among the crowd. They found the negro perfectly conscious, it was said, and he talked to them at some length. What he said has not been brought out, but it is learned he named men other than those already accused as having formed part of the mob that attacked him at his home Sunday night.

These two men, Claude Mauk, station agent at LaCrosse, and others phoned to Sheriff Battle of the shooting of the negro, but it was more than two hours after he had been notified before he went to the scene, it was said. After he took charge of the negro and brought him to the jail where he died at 5 p. m., the sheriff told a reporter over the telephone that the negro had not spoken a word. This statement was contradicted by persons who were in attendance on the negro, who declared he was able to talk almost to the last and did so.

Sheriff Battle's excuse for not serving the coroner's nine warrants when put into his hands at first is that they were not properly drawn, that Coroner F. U. Rigsby, who issued the warrants, was unable to write and signed them only with his mark which was unwitnessed. It was the kind of warrant which he served yesterday on Bennie DeVane and which he confined him in jail, however, it was said.

FARMER ACQUITTED IN LYNCHING CASE

Atlanta Constitution

Ellaville, Ga., October 11.—George Phillips, farmer, who was placed on trial Tuesday on the charge of taking part in the lynching of Will Jones, a negro, was found not guilty Wednesday morning. The jury deliberated for 24 hours before reaching a verdict.

LET ALL THE FACTS C[illegible]

THE TIMES-RECORDER wants no injustice done in the [illegible] county case discussed in the accompanying article. It has made an honest attempt to learn the truth, so far as it is possible to learn by first hand investigation. It has offered to publish just as fair a statement the accused men may care to make to set forth their side of the case. It hereby publicly makes the same tender again.

As for Sheriff Battle and his friends, if mis-statements have been made, if any accusations are unjust, we will be only too glad to give their side of the matter full prominence and accuracy. We believe this situation so deeply important as to warrant the bringing out of ALL the facts, and that is what is being attempted. If there are other facts not here disclosed, we shall be glad to publish them, or if any mis-statements have been made we shall be glad to correct them.

MERIDEN CONN RECORD
AUGUST 19, 1922

Punishment For Lynching

Warfare against lynching progresses in the South. A special grand jury summoned at Macon, Ga., within 10 days from its assembly returned five indictments against persons charged with participation in a lynching bee. There is no reason to doubt that trials will follow with equal celerity and impartiality.

It is not so very long ago that in no southern state could any such thing have happened. There are still states in which it would be impossible to secure such prompt action, because the people are not yet convinced that there are better ways of preventing and punishing certain crimes than by lynching.

In spite of progress there is need for further activity against this particular form of lawless justice. But it must be remembered in any activity to secure anti-lynch legislation that the stain for crimes of this type does not rest wholly upon any section, and that enlightened action to wipe out the practice is not confined to any section, either.

Lynchings—1922

Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Georgia

1036

MAY INVESTIGATE ACTION OF SHERIFF

Atlanta Constitution

Sentenced to Hang, Bonner Alleged to Have Been Taken From Jail and Shot.

1/1/22

Macon, Ga., December 31.—(Special.)—Although investigation into the action of Sheriff J. C. Middlebrooks, of Jones county, in attempting to remove Joe Bonner, negro under sentence of death, but whose execution is stayed until the case is reviewed by the nation's supreme court, from the Bibb jail early yesterday morning, appeared probably tonight. It was indicated that Governor Thomas W. Hardwick will be asked to order an investigation to determine whether the sheriff should be removed from office.

Sheriff Middlebrooks called at the Bibb jail at 1:45 o'clock this morning and demanded his prisoner, saying he would take him to Atlanta for safe-keeping. The night assistant at the jail delivered him. Five minutes later, shooting was heard outside the jail. The Jones sheriff claimed the negro tried to escape from him.

Bonner, who is in the Bibb jail suffering from a club wound on his head and a bullet wound in each foot, made a statement today in which he charged Sheriff Middlebrooks threatened to kill him when he took him out of the jail, and shot at him with the intention of killing him. Sheriff Middlebrooks is said to be a brother-in-law to the man whom Bonner was convicted of killing.

Alleged Threat.

Bonner's statement says that Middlebrooks was under the influence of liquor when he took him from the jail, and threatened to kill him.

Middlebrooks obtained custody of the negro on the statement that he was conveying him to an Atlanta prison for safe-keeping. Sheriff James R. Hicks, of Bibb county, explained that in such cases the visiting sheriff is entitled to ingress of the jail with prisoners and that Assistant Jailer Charlie Roberts was bound to give up Bonner. Jailer Tom McCommon was in bed when Middlebrooks called for his prisoner.

A person who was passing near the jail at the time of the shooting reported having heard cursing immediately prior to the shots, the speaker threatening to shoot somebody. The governor had ordered Middlebrooks to remove Bonner from the Jones county jail at Gray Friday afternoon if mob violence appeared likely.

This telegraphic instruction was insistent and was issued after the governor's interview with Attorney W. G. Cooper, and after Attorney John R. Cooper had obtained a stay of execution through the writ signed by Judge Evans at Savannah.

Bonner was brought here at 4 o'clock Friday afternoon.

The case was placed in the federal court when Bonner's counsel asked for a writ of habeas corpus on the ground that the confession which figured in the trial was not obtained freely and voluntarily, that there had been no evidence to corroborate the alleged confession and that the sentence served to deprive Bonner of his life, contrary to the fourteenth amendment to the constitution of the United States. Judge Evans refused the writ of habeas corpus, but granted a writ of error.

Confession Introduced.

The confession referred to was introduced as evidence by Sheriff Middlebrooks at the Bonner trial and, according to Bonner's counsel, relates the negro's relation with the man who actually murdered A. S. Jones, wealthy recluse.

Sheriff Middlebrooks, it is said, told that he and a man named Tucker apprehended Bonner and promised him immunity if he would tell all he knew of the killing. Bonner is said to have told the officers that he accompanied another negro, named Jim Sims, to the door of Jones' home where Sims called to the recluse, who answered, "Knock 'em off," this answer apparently being a password on the Jones property which Sims had recently been evicted.

Sims was arrested but freed after several weeks. Bonner being put on trial for the murder. Sims was not indicted in connection with this case. Jones' wife was a sister to Sheriff Middlebrooks, it is understood.

GOVERNOR HARDWICK DISCUSSES ACTION.

Governor Thomas W. Hardwick, when informed of developments last night said he was surprised, as no report had been made to him.

"While I am not at all in sympathy with the appeal made to the federal court in this case," said the governor, "I am going to do anything I can to see that the spirit of the law as well as the letter of the law is carried out, and, if there is any danger of trouble I will, immediately that the Bibb county authorities indicate it to me, support those authorities in preserving respect for the law it it takes every unit of militia in the state.

"I wired the sheriff of Jones county yesterday that I had declined to interfere in any way with the sentence of the court in the Bonner case, and had also declined to reprieve the man. I told him, though, I was informed that a supercedeas order had been or would be issued by the federal court that would have the effect of staying the execution and, if that order was properly served upon him he should respect it.

"I told the sheriff of Jones county, also, if in his judgment the delay of the execution of the court's sentence would endanger the life of the negro, and cause trouble that would reflect upon the state he should remove him to some other county to a place of safety. I assume hs acted upon that suggestion and transferred the negro to Bibb county. That information sent from my office to the sheriff was the last I have heard of the case, except that I was informed the supercedeas order of the federal court was served upon Sheriff Middlebrooks.

"This later information is entirely new to me. Under the circumstances it would appear that the negro should be held by the Bibb county authorities, and possibly he should be removed to some even safer place, more distant from Jones county, to be held until the federal court has disposed of the appeal taken there," he said.

SERIOUS CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST COUNTY OFFICER.

Atlanta Ga. Independent 1/12/22

Removal of Chief of Colquitt Police Asked in Petition.

Moultrie, Ga., Jan. 10.—(Special.—A petition bearing the names of a number of Colquitt county taxpayers was filed with the sheriff and clerk of the board of county commissions this afternoon, urging the removal of County Policeman Stewart on a charge of malfeasance in office.

The petition sets out two alleged instances in which it is claimed that Stewart perjured himself, and also alleges that he was an active participant in the lynching of John Henry Williams, a negro, who was burned at the stake near Autreyville last summer. Stewart was one of the special guards appointed by Judge Thomas to help protect Williams while on trial. It was after he was tried, convicted and sentenced to hang for the murder of little Lorena Wilkes, Williams was taken from the officers at the court house steps as he was being carried to prison.

One of the instances of alleged perjury, the petitioners claim, is when Stewart swore at the trial of a case here that he had never used a search warrant in blank, filling out the name himself of the person's residence that he wanted to search.

The petition says that the Georgia code provides that before a person can be appointed or elected a county policeman he must be 21 years old and a man of good character, and contends that for the reasons set forth above that Stewart is disqualified.

Stewart has been under fire nearly ever since he was made chief of the Colquitt county police force and gave instructions to make Colquitt as dry as the Sahara. The grand jury has been appealed to twice, but in both cases declined to recommend his removal.

The date of the hearing in the latest move has not been named, but it is believed that because of the gravity of the charges embodied in the petition the commissioners will hold a special meeting at an early date. Stewart could not be seen tonight for a statement.—Atlanta Constitution.

OCONEE JURY TO PROBE KILLINGS

Atlanta Constitution

Indictments Expected Soon as Result of Investigation by Federal and County Officials.

1/15/22

Athens, Ga., January 14.—(Special.)—Indictments in connection with the alleged lynchings and illegal killings in Oconee county will be asked of the grand jury of the superior court, which convenes in that county the fourth Monday in January, it was learned from authoritative sources here tonight.

Several alleged guilty persons have been identified, and indictments against these men will be made by the grand jury, the official contended.

Since early in December, an investigation has been conducted in Oconee jointly by the county officials and the United States federal officers, in the hope of rounding up the bunch of men who have been charged with being responsible for recent lynchings and killings.

The latter part of December rewards of $150 each were offered, both by Governor Thomas W. Hardwick and private citizens in Oconee county, for information leading to the arrest of the man or men implicated in the law violations.

OFFICIAL THREATENED.

Message Received Upon Eve of Lynch-Probe.

Commercial Appeal

WATKINSVILLE, Ga., January 14.—"You'll be dead before Monday night," was a message Fred Gibson, county solicitor for Oconee County, said he received yesterday on the eve of the convening of the grand jury to probe the lynching of three negroes in this county several weeks ago.

Memphis Tenn. 1/15/22

The sheriff of this county and one of his deputies, who have been engaged in working up the case against persons charged with the lynching, have also received threatening messages, they say.

ALLEGED SLAYERS ARE INDICTED

Atlanta Ga. Constitution

Oconee Grand Jury Returns Indictments. Following Investigations. Names Not Revealed.

1/26/27

Athens, Ga., January 25.—(Special.)—Indictments have been made by the grand jury of the superior court, in session in Watkinsville, Oconee county, in connection with the alleged killing of Wil Wheeler's boy, a negro, it was stated by officials of that county over long-distance telephone Wednesday night. The names of the indicted persons ewer not given out, in order that there might be no difficulty in making the arrests, it is said.

Some months ago, it will be remembered, Will Wheeler, negro, was visited by unknown Oconee county citizens wanting information about other negroes, so it is stated on good authority, and when Wheeler refused to give this information, they fired into his house, killing the boy.

Oconee county officials stated they are expecting other indictments this week.

The indictments are based upon the killing of three negroes there last December 5, and follow an investigation which has been conducted by the combined state and federal authorities.

Atlanta Constitution 1/26/27

Follow Killings.

The probe into the alleged lynchings in Oconee county followed the killing of Aaron Birdsong, George Lowe and West Hale, three negroes, on Sunday afternoon, December 5. While all three negroes were reported killed by mobs, since the affair, it has been authoritatively stated that the negroes were resisting arrest which accounted for their being shot, Birdsong having shot and wounded John Brown, deputy sheriff, and Fred Dooley, members of the arresting posse.

According to authoritative information obtained at the time of the occurrence, Aaron Birdsong, negro, visited the home of B. Lovern in Oconee county Saturday morning, December 4, for a loan. Upon Lovern stating that he had no money, the negro persisted in hanging around the premises. Lovern is said to have inquired of the negro as to why he was continuing to hang around and he stated that he wanted to rent some land. Lovern, who was about to drive to Athens, told the negro that he had no time to talk to him, driving off for Athens, and the negro leaving also.

Twenty minutes after Lovern left, Birdsong, the negro, is said to have returned and Lovern's daughter was the first one to see him, and when she did, he had already entered the house. Screaming, Lovern's daughter is said to have run to her mother, and Mrs. Lovern brandishing a butcher knife, frightened the negro away.

Officers Wounded.

Lovern, learning about the affair on his return, swore out a warrant for the arrest of the negro. Officers approached the Birdsong home early Sunday morning, but Birdsong could not be enticed to leave the house, and when he saw that officers were surrounding the place, he fired

into them, seriously wounding Officers John Brown and Fred Dooley, and then made his escape. Dooley lost his eye as the result of the shot.

The posse began a search for Birdsong and that afternoon found him shooting him at the time as he again offered resistance. Birdsong was armed with a shotgun and knife, it is said. Late Sunday afternoon his body was burned.

Different Theories.

Lowe and Hale were said to have been killed because they furnished Birdsong with aid in the form of ammunition for his gun. Other reports say they were killed for resisting arrest.

Several theories are held regarding the alleged lynchings or killings. Oconee officers maintain that the deaths of the negroes came about as a result of their resisting arrest, while other citizens maintain different theories. The state and federal investigations were conducted on the ground that there was a question in the matter.

ARRESTS ARE MADE IN OCONEE PROBE

Atlanta Ga.

Athens, Ga., January 26.—Jim Dooley, Hamp Dooley, Herbert Thomas and Cal Hawkes were all arrested by Sheriff Maxeys, of Oconee county, late last night in connection with the alleged lynchings and illegal killings which have been staged in that county of late, and following indictments made by the grand jury yesterday in session in Watkinsville, Oconee county.

1/27/22

The two Dooleys and Thomas have been paced in the Clarke county jail, while Hawkins is held in the Oconee county jail at Watkinsville. The time of a hearing for the men has not been set.

Since early in December, state and federal authorities have conducted an investigation in the Oconee county killings, and it was authoritatively stated this morning that yet other indictments and arrests will be made soon in connection with the recent killing of the three negroes, Aaron Birdson, West Hale and George Lowe, last December.

FOUR ARRESTED IN LYNCH QUIZ

Atlanta Georgian 1/27/22

ATHENS, Ga., Jan. 26.—Four men were arrested Wednesday night by Sheriff Maxeys of Oconee following their indictment in connection with recent alleged lynchings or killings of three negroes in Oconee County.

The men arrested were Jim Dooley, Hamp Dooley, Herbert Thomas and Cal Hawks. The two Dooleys and Thomas were brought to Athens early Thursday morning and lodged in Clarke jail, while Hawks was imprisoned in Watkinsville. Sheriff Maxeys said he brought three of the men to Athens because of the crowded condition of the jail at Watkinsville. No date has been set for hearings.

It is understood the investigation of the death of the negroes is being continued and other indictments and arrests are likely to follow.

The probe into the alleged lynchings in Oconee County followed the killing of Aaron Birdsong, George Lowe and West Hale, negroes, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 5. While all three negroes were reported killed by mobs, since the affair it has been authoritatively stated that the negroes were resisting arrest, which accounted for their being shot. Birdsong had shot and wounded John Brown, deputy sheriff, and Fred Dooley, members of the arresting posse, it is said.

READY TO TRY LYNCHING CASE

Atlanta Georgian 1/31/22

ATHENS, Ga., Jan. 30.—With nearly 50 witnesses for the State subpoenaed, the trial of Jim Dooley, Hamp Dooley, Cal Hawkes and Herbert Thomas, indicted for murder in connection with the killing of three negroes in Oconee County, Dec. 5, is scheduled to begin either Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning, in the Superior Court, in session in Watkinsville.

The two Dooley men and Mr. Thomas, who were held in the Clarke County jail, were taken to Watkinsville Monday morning by Sheriff Walter Jackson, accompanied by bailiffs from both Clarke and Oconee Counties. Mr. Hawkes is already in Watkinsville, being held in jail there.

It was stated Monday morning that there is a possibility that the lawyers for the defense will ask for more time when the trial opens, and in that case the four men may not be tried until the next session of the Superior Court, which meets the latter part of April.

In Case Judge Blanton Fortson, who is presiding in the case, refuses to grant the defense extra time, it is said that the attorneys for the four men will attempt to prove that the grand jury indicted the wrong men, and on this ground will fight to free the accused.

Representing the four men are Judge John J. Strickland, John B. Gamble, Wolver M. Smith and Mr. Arnold, all leading lawyers in this section of the State. Solicitor W. O. Dean, of Gainesville, is scheduled to conduct the prosecution for the State. It is probable that he will have assistance and the trial promises to be extended.

THOMAS FOUND NOT GUILTY OF MURDER

Alibi Is Introduced by Defense Which Exonerates Him of Charge

Montgomery Advertiser 2/3/22

WATKINSVILLE, GA., Feb. 2.—Herbert Thomas was found not guilty by a jury in superior court here late today of the murder of three negroes who were shot to death near here last December.

Susie Lowe, widow of one of the slain men testified that Thomas was spokesman for a party of white men who came to her house at night and took away her husband George Lowe, but the defense introduced testimony to the effect that Thomas was at home sick in bed on the night of December 5 when the negroes were killed. Thomas wept as he asserted on the stand that he was innocent.

The jury was out little more than an hour and after the verdict was rendered Judge Blanton Fortson postponed the trials of the other three men indicted with Thomas until the July term and allowed them bail of $3,500 each. They are James and Hampton Dooley and Calvin Hawks, who Susie Lowe declared also were in the party that came to her home.

Arrests Expected In Negro Killing Case in Schley

Secret Verdict Returned by Coroner's Jury Probing Alleged Lynching.

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 2/15/22

Americus, Ga., February 14.—(Special.)—The coroner's jury which investigated the alleged lynching of Will Jones, negro, near Ellaville, Monday, returned a sealed verdict late today, and immediately afterward, Sheriff R. E. Battle left Ellaville with coroner's warrants, it was reported, for a number of white citizens who are alleged to have participated in the execution of the negro. Coroner U. H. Rigsby, who talked with a newspaper man early tonight said he was not at liberty to make public the verdict and intimated that sensational disclosures in the case may be expected.

The jury spent several hours last night and all day today in its investigation of the negro's death. Twenty-five or more witnessees were examined, and a number of those who gave testimony acknowledged they were present when the negro was shot to death. Dr. J. R. Jordan, who examined Jones after he was brought to Ellaville, testified he came to his death by gunshot wounds. Dr. W. A. Reynolds also gave testimony, and J. A. Williamson, a member of the board of county commissioners, told of finding Jones dying in the woods. With him at the time was Mayor Rogers Williams, of Ellaville, according to information reaching here.

Allen's Testimony.

R. F. Allen, a white man living in the neighborhood of the dead negro's home, gave the most sensational testimony adduced at the hearing, and it was upon this, it is stated that warrants were issued for several members of the mob, which it is alleged, lynched Jones.

According to the story told the coroner's jury by Allen, the negro Jones, after the shooting Sunday night, came to his house and asked for protection, saying that he had shot at two men in his yard a short time before. Later Allen carried Jones in his car to the home of Lucius Hart, a negro farmer living near Lowe, where Hart secreted the fugitive and Allen returned to his home, he said.

Saw Negro Shot.

Monday a band of white men seized him, he continued, and made him go with them to the hiding place of Jones, and after the negro had been secured he accompanied the lynchers to the spot where Jones was shot to death, within a few feet of where he was later found by Commissioner Williamson and Mayor Williams.

The negro was seized at the Hart farm, which is located near the line of Sumter and Schley counties, about 9 o'clock Monday morning, Allen told the jury, and was soon afterward shot to death. Besides Allen, who is described as a respectable white farmer, a number of negroes testified before the jury. Some of these are said to have given testimony of sensational importance regarding the death of Jones, and a number of them are declared to have identified several members of the mob.

Nine Men Wanted For Negro Killing In Schley County

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 2/16/22

Americus, Ga., February 16.—(Special.)—Johnny Devane, Benny Devane, Arthur Devane, Tom Brown, Henry Harvey, George Phillips, Clarence Robinson and two enlisted soldiers are the men being sought by Sheriff R. E. Battle, of Schley county, for the alleged lynching of Will Jones, a negro found dying in the woods near Ellaville Tuesday.

These men, according to information, the authenticity of which has been thoroughly established, are named in the sealed verdict returned by the coroner's jury as responsible for the negro's murder. All have disappeared, although they are men of families operating farms in Schley and Macon counties. All reside in Schley county except George Phillips and Clarence Robinson. Several of the men are related to John Harvey, who received serious wounds while prowling about the dead negro's yard Sunday night.

Benny Devane, one ot the men named in the coroner's jury verdict, accompanied John Harvey on his ill-fated trip to the negro Jones' home, where Harvey was shot. Devane sustained slight flesh gunshot wounds at that time.

Benny Devane is said to have acted as spokesman for the lynchers, several of whom were drinking. The two soldiers were picked up by the lynchers, it was said, after Allen had been taken from his home, and while the mob was on its way to seize Jones. The names of these two men have not yet become public, and it is generally said that they joined the mob through a spirit of excitement and adventure than because of any interest they held in the lynching of the negro.

WARRANTS FOR 9 IN LYNCHING

AMERICUS, Ga., Feb. 15.—Sheriff R. E. Battle, of Schley County, returned to Ellaville, Wednesday morning after an all-night hunt for participants in the lynching Monday of Will Jones, a negro. He holds warrants for nine men, all heads of families, but none had been arrested. All disappeared, according to reliable information, and the authorities decline to say what steps will be taken to effect their arrest. The names of those for whom warrants were issued are withheld.

Coroner U. H. Rigsby told newspaper correspondents Wednesday the mob was composed of not more than a dozen persons, and evidence at the inquest indicated the killing was unjustifiable.

"The other negro ought to have kept out of trouble. I manage to keep out of trouble," is the remark, credited to Jones, said to have provoked an attack on him by Benny DeVane and John Harvey, white, who were shot either while in Jones' yard or on his porch. The shooting resulted in the lynching of Jones, according to reliable authority.

In the lynching party were two in soldiers' uniforms, who arrived in Ellaville riding a government motor cycle. These men joined the lynchers, it was developed at the coroner's hearing, and left the party at the scene of Jones' death after the negro had been shot up. They were traced from there to Oglethorpe and Ideal and they went from the latter place in the direction of Columbus. Their identity has not been established, nor is it known whether they are included in the nine for whom Sheriff Battle holds warrants charging murder.

ALLEGED LYNCHERS RETAIN COUNSEL

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 2/17/22

Americus, Ga., February 20.—(Special.)—Zack S. Childers, Americus attorney, has been engaged to defend Benny Devane and Henry Harvey, two of the defendants in the Schley county lynching case. He will have Judge E. J. Hart, of Ellaville, associated with him. Mr. Childers declared the statement of Clarence Bivins, bailiff, sent to Henry Harvey's home to guard the prisoner, that he had been forced to abandon his post by threats from the dark, to be without foundation in fact.

"I went to the home of Henry Harvey a short time after Bivins left Friday night, said Childers. I conferred with the prisoner, Mr. Harvey, his father; two other gentlemen, Mr. Tidd, Jim Phillips, and three ladies, who were in the home of Harvey all that night. They stated positively no one had been there to threaten Mr. Bivins or told him to leave. They said the only parties who had been there that night were Mr. Bivins' son-in-law, Mr. Nelson; his son-in-law's father and one other person, whose name I do not remember.

"They said Mr. Bivins stated in their presence that he asked these men to come there that night."

Lynchings - 1922
Legal Punishment of Lynchers

Georgia.

1037

Indict Five Georgia Whites For Lynching John Glover; Paper, Judge, Urge Action

Chicago Defender
8-19-22

Macon, Ga., Aug. 18.—Five white men have already been indicted in connection with the lynching of John Glover Aug. 1. The general belief is that there will be more true bills returned this week when the grand jury reconvenes. Those who figured in the lynching or who appeared in the mob on Broadway where Glover's body was placed following the lynching are subject to charges of unlawful assemblage, carrying concealed weapons and rioting.

Despite the riotous nature of its news items, the Macon Telegraph, editorially, is held largely responsible for the action taken against the Georgia white men who have grown set in the practice of taking the law into their own hands. The Telegraph took heed of the trend of public sentiment throughout the country as noted by the success the Dyer anti-lynching bill has already had.

Immediate Action

It was this journal that spoke immediately after the terrible orgy, when red-eyed murderers stalked the streets terrifying innocent and peaceful men, women and children, whipping some, intimidating others and forcing all to quit the regular routine of their business. C. H. Douglas, prominent business man of the city and owner of one of the finest show houses in the town, centrally located, was one of those sought out by the mob for special insult. Although Douglas knew nothing of the tragedy wherein Deputy Sheriff W. C. Byrd lost his life in a fight with Glover, the blood-thirsty whites chose the theater owner, because of his success, as one on whom to vent their jealous spleen. The dead man's body was thrown in front of the theater.

The Macon paper declared that there was no way under heaven to keep the anti-lynching bill from being choked down the throats of Georgia lynchers if the law did not step out and seek to punish the perpetrators of the city's "reign of terror." Further, attention was called to the attack on a mail collector and the grave consequences that might result as the outgrowth of interference with the mails.

Courts or Mob

At the special grand jury which was called to investigate the lynching of Glover, alleged slayer and the man lynched, Judge Henry A. Matthews of the Macon court minced no words in scoring mob rule and raised the issue as to whether the courts or the mob shall dominate.

"There has been too much trifling with this subject in this state and country at large," said Judge Matthews. "Some men, not criminals, not murderers actually or potentially, will speak of lynchings as evils, but as evils impossible to prevent under some circumstances, as necessary incidents of the conditions in which we live. Nothing could be more mischievous than this attitude, and the only attitude for a good and patriotic man is that of abhorrence and active, everlasting opposition to outrages on the law in all cases of whitecapping and murderous lynchings."

Duty of Investigation

It is as refreshing as it is extraordinary to have remarks of this sort come from a judge, especially in blood-soaked and murderer-infested Georgia, and it may be a good sign. Referring directly to the lynching Judge Matthews said:

"The duty and propriety of a full investigation of the killings are too obvious for any stress or elaboration. It is said that many people present at the scene of the disorder and murder did not take part in the acts of lawlessness and some of the men most earnestly tried to dissuade the rioters from their purpose to take the prisoner from the sheriff's deputies, that the entire series of events of Aug. 2 was in plain view of the officers of the law and of many people who took no guilty part in the acts of lawlessness. It seems, therefore, that there should be no great difficulty in getting sufficient information and evidence to identify and indict the guilty. It is conceded the Negro who was murdered by the mob was not killed in this county. You cannot, therefore, indict anyone for murder, as the necessary jurisdiction is not in this but in Monroe county."

Talk like the above bodes no good for members of any mob who might come before this particular judge, and there is but little doubt that Judge Matthews would have said the same thing had an indictment outside of Monroe county, where the crime was actually committed, been possible.

Macon, Ga., August 28.—Ten witnesses appeared before the Monroe county grand jury today in that body's investigation into the lynching a month ago of John (Cocky) Glover, negro, whom a mob took from Bibb county into Monroe and lynched.

No indictments were returned. The Bibb county jury, sitting in Macon, entered the fourth week of its investigation this morning. The day was fruitless, from the standpoint of indictments. If indictments are returned by the Monroe jury, they will charge murder, while the Bibb jury has already returned ten indictments charging assembling for the purpose of lynching.

MURDER CHARGED TO 5 IN LYNCHING

Atlanta Constitution

Four Arrests Made After Verdict Is Returned in Lynching of John Glover.

8-31-22

Forsyth, Ga., August 30.—Five Macon men were indicted late today by the Monroe county grand jury on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of John Glover, a negro, in this county on August 1. The sheriff and three deputies have gone to Macon to make arrests.

Macon, Ga., August 30.—(Special.) The five Macon men indicted for murder by the Monroe county jury at Forsyth yesterday in connection with the lynching of John (Cocky) Glover, are: Troy Raines, grocer; Nathan Unice, soft drink dealer; Gordon Herndon, mechanic; H. L. McSwain, loan agent and insurance man: D. L Wood, hotel clerk.

The first four were lodged in the Bibb county jail at 8:30 o'clock last night by Sheriff R. C. Bittick, of Macon county. Wood, against whom indictments also are pending in the county, had not been located.

Judge W. E. H. Searcy, informed on the long distance phone at Forsyth last night that the men had been arrested, ordered them held without bail. He took the position that the indictments were returned on a capital offense and was not bailable.

Solicitor-General Emmett Owen, of the Flint circuit, who arrived in Macon at 8 o'clock and conferred with the sheriff, said he "wouldn't be surprised" if one or two more indictments are returned by the grand jury, which will be in session the remainder of the week. Mr. Owen did not know when Judge Searcy would set the cases for trial.

Indictments are pending in Bibb county against all of the men indicted by the Monroe grand jury, except Troy Raines. Nathan Unice is under bond in this county for assembling for the purpose of lynching, rioting and carrying a pistol concealed; Gordon Herndon is under bond for assembling for the purpose of lynching and for rioting; McSwain is under bond for assembling and for rioting; and D. L. Wood is under bond for rioting, assembling for the purpose of lynching and for carrying a pistol concealed.

The Monroe jury has been in session since Monday. At least 30 men have appeared before the Monroe county grand jury in connection with the affair. Most of them had previously appeared before the Bibb grand jury.

WASHINGTON D. C. STAR
AUGUST 15, 1922

Tackling Lynchers.

Several white men charged with having participated in the recent lynching of a negro in Georgia have been indicted and must stand trial. Will anything come of the proceedings?

Let us not be too skeptical. Georgia has made a start toward cleaning house, and deserves to be encouraged in all such efforts.

The horrible disclosures of a year or so ago in that "murder farm" case came to something. The victims were negroes. The inciter of the murders committed was a white man of property, with some influence in his neighborhood. He was indicted by a jury of white men, tried and convicted by a jury of white men, and is now serving a life sentence in prison.

It is but a question of taking hold in good earnest. The mob spirit has been so coddled and has become so bold, all risks are freely taken by men bent on committing violence. Masks are out of date. They smack of amateur days. These are professional days, when lynchers go about their work in daytime or nightime with bare faces inviting inspection.

The verdict often returned by coroners' juries to the contrary, lynchers as a rule are known. They can be indicted and convicted if officers of the law are diligent and resolute. This new leaf turned in Georgia, therefore, has much of promise in it for orderly and humane government.

Asks Injunction Against Ga. City

Pittsburgh American
8-25-22

MACON, Ga., Aug. 25.—Injunction proceedings against the city of Macon brought by G. W. Hatfield, Jr., proprietor of Hatfield's poolroom on Broadway, to restrain the city from interfering with the re-opening of the pool room, will be heard before Judge Mathews in Bibb superior court.

It was in the Hatfield pool room that Deputy Sheriff Walter Byrd and two Negroes were slain a couple of weeks ago, followed by the lynching of Cocky Glover. After the trouble the city closed the pool room and revoked Hatfield's license.

In his petition, Hatfield denies any responsibility for the trouble and says he has made every effort to co-operate with the city and county authorities in the supression of trouble and apprehension of criminals. He claims the city in closing his business is doing so without authority of law.

It is understood Hatfield took an important part in the capture of Glover.

THREE MORE TO FACE PROBE IN LYNCHING

Atlanta Constitution

Forsyth, Ga., September 9.—H. L. McSwain, insurance man; Gordon Herndon, automobile mechanic; Troy Raines, merchant, and Nathan Unice, merchant, will go on trial Monday before Judge W. E. H. Searcy, Jr., in Monroe county superior court on a charge of murder in connection with the lynching of John Glover, a negro, who killed Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd and two negroes in Macon.

WHITE MEN INDICTED FOR LYNCHING NEGROES

Birmingham Advocate

All Southeastern Georgia Precedents Broken by Legal Action in Liberty County

9/30/22

McINTOSH, Ga., Sept. 22.—For the first time in the history of Southeastern Georgia an indictment has been found against the alleged members of a mob of lynchers charged with the murder of two Negroes.

James Harvey and Joe Jordan were lynched near Old Midway, in this (Liberty) county on the night of June 30. The Negroes were being carried from Jesup, in Wayne county, to Savannah for safe keeping, having been previously convicted on a charge of criminal assault and under reprieve from the Governor, when they were taken from the officers and hanged.

The people of Liberty County were incensed and at once began making efforts to run down the lynchers. The result is that indictments have been returned against five citizens of Wayne county charging them with the crime of murder. Three of those indicted are men of affairs and one is an official.

The fact that those indicted are all white and that the men lynched were Negroes is pointed to as making it clear that the people of this county and section are determined to maintain the supremacy of the law.

MOB DEFENDANTS FOUND NOT GUILTY

9-13-22

Atlanta Constitution

Forsyth, Ga., September 12.—(Special.)—Troy Raines, Nathan Unice, Gordon Herndon and Hecter L. McSwain, of Macon, were this afternoon found not guilty of murder in connection with the death of John Glover, negro, by a jury in the Monroe county superior court at this place. The jury deliberated only 30 minutes. Glover was lynched by a Bibb county mob, just across the Monroe county line, on August 1.

W. H. M. Weaver, foreman of the Bibb county grand jury; E. B. Harrold, secretary, and J. W. Lee, a member of that body, were in the court house this morning. Each carried a brief case. It is understood that their mission was to check up on the alleged discrepancies in testimony offered by witnesses for the state Monday.

The three men refused to discuss the object of their visit to Forsyth. Later in the day they were in consultation with Solicitor Generals Owens and Garrett.

The state abruptly closed its case this morning after one witness had been placed on the stand. Solicitor General Emmett Owens announced that the evidence adduced from some of the fourteen witnesses called by the state was "the most changed evidence he had ever seen."

The defense closed its case one hour later without offering any witnesses. The four defendants took the stand and made lengthy unsworn statements, which when summed up brought out that they had gone to the scene of the lyncing solely for the purpose of aiding Bibb county officers and not to take part in the lynching.

The state attempted this morning to change the tide of evidence adduced from its own witnesses yesterday, by placing Deputy Sheriff William Branan, of Bibb county, on the stand. Mr. Branan stated that members of the mob jerked him bodily out of the car which also contained the negro and he was struck by the defendant Unice as the latter elbowed his way through the crowd in order to get to the car.

The officer testified that the blow struck by Unice was unintentional.

On the cross examination Deputy Sheriff Branan stated that to his personal knowledge McSwain and Raines had volunteered their services to the sheriff's office and told of one incident where Raines had aided him in an effort to locate a negro from whom he was anxious to get information concerning the whereabouts of Glover.

Judge Cobb Sees Hope in Grand Jury Mob Indictments

Atlanta Constitution

Editor Constitution: Lynchers have been indicted in Oconee, Schley, Monroe, Bibb, Liberty and possibly other counties which have escaped my attention. 9/28/22

Grand jurors are awakening to a sense of duty.

Murder by a number of men, commonly called a mob, is being recognized by grand jurors as murder, which it is and has ever been. In due time trial jurors will awake and convict when the evidence authorizes and it will in most cases.

A great day it will be when all grand jurors, trial jurors and the public all unite in one purpose: "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property except by due process of law, nor be deprived of the equal protection of the laws; and the administration of the law shall be impartial and complete."

The Dyer bill will die beyond the hope of resurrection when that day arrives.

Until then the Dyer bill with its usurping, invalid features will continue to be agitated.

ANDREW J. COBB,
Georgia Baptist Hospital,
Atlanta, Ga., September 27, 1922

GEORGIA TIRES OF REPUTATION FOR LYNCHINGS

11-24-22

St. Louis Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

Twenty-Two Lynchers Indicted In State This Year. Four Have Been Convicted. Fifteen To Be Tried.

ONLY ONE INDICTMENT IN PREVIOUS 37 YEARS

Race Relations Committee Seeks Better Anti-Lynching Law. Eminent Jurists Appointed To Draft It.

Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 14 (Special to the Argus)—That there has been a surprising increase of anti-lynching sentiment in Georgia recently and a growing determination on the part of Georgia people that the sanctity of the law must be upheld, was clearly indicated in reports made to the State Committee on Race Relations in its recent semi-annual meeting in this city.

It was pointed out that during the present year twenty-two indictments have been returned against alleged lynchers and four convictions secured, carrying penitentiary sentences. Fifteen of these cases are still to be tried, most of them on the charge of murder, besides a number of damage suits growing out of injuries and losses inflicted by mobs. In one lynching case both the deputy sheriff and the chief of police are under indictment.

The significance of these facts was emphasized by the statement that in the 37 years ending with 1921 there had been 430 lynchings in Georgia and that record of only one indictment in all that time had been found.

The State and county race relations committees have been active in a number of recent cases, conducting investigations, securing evidence, and otherwise supporting local officials in their efforts to vindicate the law.

The need of an effective anti-lynching law in the State was stressed and the responsibility for drafting and getting such a bill before the next legislature was delegated to a committee of eminent jurists, headed by Judge Samuel B. Adams, of Savannah.

ANTI-MOB SENTIMENT FAST GAINING GROUND

Norfolk Journal & Guide 11-25-22

Twenty-two Lynchers Indicted In Georgia This Year; Four Convicted

Norfolk, Va.

(Special to Journal & Guide)

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Lynchings - 1922 Georgia

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1038

Deputy Sheriff, Who Fought Mob, Seeking Damages

Atlanta Constitution

Petition for $20,000 Recalls Sensational Battle for Negro Last May.

7-23-22

Macon, Ga., July 22.—(Special.) John T. Stanley, of Irwinton, deputy sheriff of Wilkinson county, wounded in a fight with a mob on the night of May 22, while defending the Wilkinson county jail in an attempt to prevent the lynching of Jim Denson, a negro, under sentence of death, today filed in the United States court a damage suit for $20,000 against 14 Wilkinson county men whom he allegs were members of the mob.

The defendants are John Wright, Clinton Loyd, Otis Freeman, Jack Jones, Lester Freeman, Thomas H. Bridwell, George Duncan, Alex S. Boone, Walter Dean, John Barge, Clarence Chambers, Grady Sanders, E. J. Brown and Thomas Bridwell. The suit was filed by Sibley & Sibley, of Milledgeville, and Hall, Grice & Block, of Macon.

Describes Battle.

Standing in the little red brick jail house, with a fussilade of shots pour-in all around him, Stanley tells of how he defended the jail for 45 minutes before he was shot in the left foot and all but two of his shells were exhausted. Finally, after he became so weak from exhaustion, and the ammunition and the superior strength of the mob forces had overpowered him, Stanley says he was forced to surrender. Denson because the pain in his foot was becoming so intense from the severed muscles and ligaments in two of his toes that to resist further would have been useless.

Stanley, also in connection with the petition, has a doctor's certificate that his heart has been seriously damaged from the shock, known as "shell shock." Mrs. Stanley, relates the petition, who was in her home a few feet from the jail, also has been damaged physically from the severe mental strain she underwent, being confined to her home with a new born baby three weeks old.

Fearless Officer.

Stanley was confined to his home several days after the fight and the next day intimated that he would file suit against several members of the mob whom he recognized.

After sufficiently recuperating, however, to leave his home it is understood he came to Macon, where in the Bibb county jail, he secured other names from Jim Denson, who escaped from the mob and was brought to Macon for safe keeping. Denson was hanged, however, June 16, in Wilkinson county.

Stanley has lived in Wilkinson county nearly all his life, it is said, and for years before becoming a deputy sheriff was a member of the police force in Irwinton. He is considered by those who know him to be a fearless officer, and frequently is said to have made raids on moonshine stills single-handed.

LYNCHING PROBE OPENS AT MACON

Atlanta Constitution

Macon, Ga., August 8.—(Special.) A special grand jury today began an investigation of the recent lynching of John "Cocky" Glover, slayer of Deputy Sheriff W. C. Byrd and two negroes.

8-9-22

In his charge to the grand jury Judge Henry A. Matthews, of the Macon circuit, scored mob rule and raised the issue as to whether the courts or the mob shall dominate.

"There has been too much trifling with this subject in this state and country at large," the court stated. "Some men not criminals, not murderers actually or potentially, will speak of lynchings as evils, but as evils impossible to prevent under some circumstances, as necessary incidents of the conditions in which we live. Nothing could be more mischievous than this attitude, and the only attitude for a good and patriotic man is that of abhorrence and active, everlasting opposition to outrages on the law in all cases of whitecapping and murderous lynchings."

Judge Matthews told the grand jurors there would be no limit to the time allotted them for their investigation, and he urged the jury not to adjourn until satisfied that all available sources of information have been exhausted. He also referred to the request of the sheriff that the conduct of his office in connection with the lynching be investigated.

It is not believed the grand jury will be ready to submit its findings before Friday. At the completion of the first session Solicitor Charles H. Garrett handed to the clerk of the superior court an additional list of witnesses to be summoned. This brings the total number to well above 100.

INDICT FIVE MEN IN LYNCHING CASE

Atlanta Constitution

Prominent Macon Men Named by Bibb Jury in the Death of "Cocky" Glover.

8-12-22

Macon, Ga., August 11.—(Special.) Indictments charging rioting, assembling for the purpose of lynching, carrying concealed weapons and weapons without a license, were returned this afternoon by the Bibb county grand jury in extraordinary session against five Macon men in connection with the lynching of John "Cocky" Glover, negro slayer of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd. The lynching occurred in Monroe county near Holton on August 1.

Arrests made up to 7 o'clock tonight were Herbert Block, manager of the Hotel Dempsey, rioting, and assembling for the purpose of lynching and carrying a pistol concealed and without a license. H. L. McSwain, president of the Southern Cooperative Fire Insurance company, and loan agent, rioting and assembling for the purpose of lynching, and Guy Jones, city fireman, carrying weapons and carrying a pistol without a license. Block made bond assessed at $3,000.

The indictments were returned at the conclusion of the fourth day's session of the grand jury this afternoon.

They were signed by W. H. M. Weaver, foreman of the grand jury. Judge Henry A. Mathews, of the superior court, immediately signed the warrants for the arrest of the parties. The court also held that the defendants be held under bond of $1,000 in each case.

The indictments charging rioting set out that Block and three other men did unlawfully and with force and arms, together with other persons unknown to the grand jury, "take from William Branan, a deputy sheriff, and from J. L. Mullally, a deputy sheriff, a prisoner, John Glover, alias Cocky Glover, for the purpose of mobbing and lynching Glover, and did in a violent and tumultuous manner, after taking Glover in charge, transport him across the line between Monroe and Bibb counties for the purpose of mobbing, lynching and killing John Glover."

A true bill also was returned against Block for carrying a concealed weapon and one for carrying a pistol without a license. Another man, who was not indicted for rioting and assembling for the purpose of lynching, is charged with carrying a concealed weapon and a weapon without a license.

Shortly after the true bills were handed down the grand jury took a recess until Monday morning. Judge Mathews announced this afternoon that until the grand jury adjourned its investigation, which will probably be Tuesday or Wednesday, he would not consider calling a special term of court to try the men indicted.

Judge Searcy to Investigate Glover Lynching Near Macon

Atlanta Constitution

BIBB MOB ATTACKED IN NEGRO LYNCHING

8-3-22

Judge Searcy Says Monroe Grand Jury Will Make Thorough Inquiry.

Macon, Ga., Aug. 2.—Judge W. E. H. Searcy, of the Flint Circuit, will direct the Monroe County grand jury, which convenes the fourth Monday in August, to investigate the lynching of John (Cocky") Glover, assassin of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd, which occurred Monday afternoon in Monroe County, just north of Holton, which is in Bibb.

In making the announcement of the investigation, Judge Searcy scored the mob, made up of 400 Macon and Bibb County men, for taking the Negro into Monroe County to lynch him.

Searcy Scores Mob.

"I don't understand what motive the mob could have had in taking the Negro over the Bibb County line," Judge Searcy said. "Monroe doesn't approve of mob violence and I certainly don't. I don't see how the mob could hope to improve a situation by using one murderer at large to make a score of murderers.

"I shall direct the grand jury to investigate the case fully and hope it may be able to adequately punish those who engaged in it. The grand jury, you may rest assured, will use all diligence to vindicate the law and punish those people who have no respect for it. I have no respect for people who engage in mob violence and it is my conviction that they ought to be punished."

The body of Glover, riddled by bullets, was carried to Forsyth late Monday afternoon by Chief Detective Homer Hardison. When the detective drove up to Chief of Police Holland, of Forsyth, with the body, the chief said, "You all killed him, keep the body," and refused to accept the body. Hardison turned the body over to the coroner and sheriff, who held the inquest.

Wanted to Burn.

The body was not carried to Forsyth until after a mob of men had brought it into Macon, yelling and waving their arms to pedestrians to come and witness their work. A dirty, rattletrap, improvised hearse, containing the body, stopped in front of the Douglas Theater, a Negro picture show, near the pool room where Deputy Sheriff Byrd was killed. The body was thrown into the foyer of the theater.

People flocked by hundreds from all directions. They pushed and shoved and yelled at the top of their voices, "Burn him," "hang him up," and, "Let's get a look at him." It was the plan of the mob to burn the body inside of the theater. Women were mixed with the crowd. They seemed as eager to see the body as hundreds of men. One blonde woman was heard to brag that she had squeezed by the police twice to see the body. Two women fainted and had to be dragged from the mass.

Refused Troops.

Police finally succeeded in throwing the body into an automobile and rushing it to the City Hall where it was kept until carried to Forsyth for burial.

Judge Malcolm D. Jones, of Bibb Superior Court, refused a tender of state troops from Governor Thomas Hardwick to keep order in Macon. He also refused the petition of Allen & Tipton, attorneys, to move London C[illegible], one of the Negroes sentenced to death in the Aligood murder case, which was worked up by Deputy Sheriff Byrd. The case is believed by many to be at the bottom of the murder of the deputy sheriff last Saturday.—Atlanta Georgian.

LYNCHING STATEMENT OFFICIALLY ISSUED.

Macon, Ga., August 3.—(Special.) An official statement of how the body of John "Cocky" Glover, the negro who was lynched last Tuesday for the murder of Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd, happened to be "dumped onto Monroe county" was issued today by Chairman R. E. Finley, of the police committee of Macon city council, showing there is

no ground for criticism of Macon officials in connection with the case.

Mr. Findlay stated that before sending the body back to Monroe county, Sheriff Bittick, of Monroe county, was communicated with over long-distance telephone to see if they would accept the body, the opinion being expressed that it would be needed at the inquest.

According to Mr. Findlay, Sheriff Bittick did not express any disapproval of the plan to take the body to Forsyth. He asked if Macon would stand the expense of the burial of the body, stating that Monroe county would expect to pay the expense of the inquest. Mayor Williams agreed that burial expenses would be paid by the city of Macon, if relatives did not claim the body after the inquest

Mr. Findlay says that when City Detective Hardison reached Forsyth with the body he missed Sheriff Bittick, but the police chief informed him where he could find the coroner, directing him to a lumber yard, where the coroner had already obtained a jury and was waiting for the arrival of the body.

The city of Macon today received a bill for $77 from Monroe county for the cost of burying the negro's body, and a check for that amount will be sent at once.

LYNCHING QUIZ IN BIBB PUSHED

Atlanta Georgian

MACON, Ga., August 4.—After a three-hour conference Friday morning with Charles A. Garrett, Solicitor of the Bibb Superior Court, and other county officers, Judge Henry A. Mathews announced he will probably call a special session of the Bibb County grand jury either this week or the first of next to investigate the lynching of John "Cocy" Glover, near Holton, in Monroe County, Tuesday afternoon. 8-5-22

It is expected Judge Mathews will make a definite announcement within the next few days. If the extraordinary session is decided upon, the judge will call back into session the April grand jury, Socilitor Garrett said.

"Many of Macon's leading citizens are urging that the grand jury be called immediately, "Solicitor Garrett said. "They take the stand that Macon and Bibb should not stand idly back and allow Monroe County to conduct an investigation, isasmuch as the mob was composed chiefly of Bibb citizens, who killed a Macon negro for the death of a Bibb County official."

It is also understood citizens are urging Judge Mathews to have the matter probed on the ground that the mob was in Bibb when Glover was taken from the officers. The Monroe County line sign was in plain view of the mob and it was decided in order to dodge an investigation in Bibb to lynch the negro in More, it is claimed.

Solicitor General Emmett Owens, of the Flint Judicial Circuit, has announced that the Monroe County grand jury will be called into session August 28 for an investigation.

It is rumored here that a large number of Monroe County detectives are in Macon now, obtaining names

OFFICIALS PROBE MONROE LYNCHING

Atlanta Constitution

Macon, Ga., August 2.—(Special.) That Monroe county intends to push the investigation of the lynching of "Cockey" Glover by a Bibb county mob, just across the line in Monroe county, was indicated today, when officials of that county came to Macon and secured the names of a number of men alleged to have been ring leaders in the lynching. 8-3-22

It was not intimated whether warrants will be served immediately, or whether action will await the meeting of the Monroe county grand jury the fourth Monday in August, at which Judge W. H. Searcy has said an investigation will be made.

The wave of indignation at the action of the Bibb county mob in taking the negro into Monroe county and the later action of Macon city officials in having the body returned to Forsyth, where City Detective Hardison is said to have left it in a lumber yard, where the coroner of Monroe county it located, is said to have swept over the entire county today when the facts became known.

The body of Glover was interred in a cemetery at Forsyth today.

Without jurisdiction because of the fact that the lynching took place in Monroe county, Bibb county authorities say that as far as they are concerned, the matter is a closed incident.

The death of Sam Brooks, negro who was shot during the trouble in the Broadway pool room last Saturday night, when deputy sheriff Walter C. Byrd was slain, was the only new feature of the case. This makes the fourth death in connection with the trouble, the victims being Deputy Byrd, George Marshall, Sam Brooks and Cockey Glover. Brooks and Marshall were innocent bystanders and are said to have been struck by bullets from Glover's gun.

The mob spirit appears to have died down today and the police permitted negro business houses on Boardway to resume operation. Hatfield's pool room, where the shooting took place has been permanently closed and action is expected shortly by city council, looking to the closing of all pool rooms in the city.

LYNCHING PROBE SOUGHT IN BIBB

Atlanta Constitution

Macon, Ga., August 3.—(Special.) An extraordinary session of the Bibb grand jury will be called within the next few days, it is understood, to investigate the lynching of John ("Cocky") Glover in Monroe county last Tuesday. Glover is the negro who shot and killed Deputy Sheriff Walter C. Byrd. 8-4-22

Judge H. A. Mathews, of Bibb superior court, today stated that he has the matter under advisement and will make known his decision tomorrow.

A delegation of prominent Macon citizens today called on Judge Mathews and appealed to him to call a special session of the grand jury. It is understood Judge Mathews informed the delegation that he would take the matter under advisement and would confer with Charles H. Garrett, solicitor-general of the Macon circuit.

The delegation is said to have urged Judge Mathews to spare no expense in bringing about a thorough investigation. They also took the position that Macon and Bibb county cannot idly stand by and allow Monroe county alone to conduct an investigation since at it is said the mob was composed chiefly of Macon and Bibb county citizens and they killed the negro because he had murdered a Bibb county official.

It is also understood that the delegation presented Judge Mathews with the alleged fact that the mob was in Bibb county when Glover was taken from the officers conveying him from Griffin to Macon, and there was some debate on the spot as to whether he should be lynched in Monroe or in Bibb county. The Monroe county line sign-post was in plain view of the mob and it was decided that in order to dodge an investigation in Bibb county the negro would be taken across the Monroe county line to be executed.

While the actual lynching of the negro will not come under the jurisdiction of Bibb county, it is believed that the proposed investigation could be conducted on the lines of unlawful assembling to lynch Glover and creating general disorders based on rioting.

Solicitor-General Emmett Owen, of the Flint judicial circuit, which embraces Monroe county announced today that the Monroe county grand jury will be called into session on August 28 and an investigation of the lynching of the negro in Monroe county will then be made. No action will be taken by Monroe officials until the matter has been put before the grand jury.

CRIMINAL COURT ON IN SPALDING

Atlanta Constitution

Heavy Docket Engaged This Week—Griffin Rents Down — General News.

8-16-22

Griffin, Ga., August 15.—(Special.)—Spalding superior court began a week's criminal work here this morning. Solicitor Emmett Owen of Fayetteville, is prosecuting and Judge William E. H. Searcy, Jr., is presiding. The criminal docket is heavy. It will require the entire week to clear it, court officials stated this morning.

Solicitor-General Owen has just returned from Macon, where he went to investigate and gather information relative to the lynching of John Glover, negro slayer of a Macon deputy. The actual lynching took place in Monroe county, which forms a part of the Flynt circuit.

While Mr. Owen refuses to discuss information obtained in Macon, or to express opinion as to what the Monroe county grand jury will do when it convenes the last part of this month, it is generally believed that the solicitor obtained sufficient information to warrant the return of indictments of murder.

JUDGE SCORES LYNCHERS TO JURY

Atlanta Georgian 8-29-22

FORSYTH, Ga., August 28.—A strong charge directing members of the Monroe County grand jury to learn the identity of the men who took John (Cocky) Glover from Bibb into Monroe County a month ago to lynch him, and to return indictments against them, was given to the Monroe County grand jury when it convened Monday for the August term by Judge W. E. H. Searcy, of Griffin.

After charging on general laws in the penal code, Judge Searcy scathingly denounced mob law and charged specifically on the Glover case.

"There has been committed within the confines of this county, according to reports reaching the court, a most atrocious murder," he said.

FORFEITED TO STATE.

"The victim of the murder had by all rules of humanity and all rules of law forfeited his right to live, but he had forfeited it to the law and to the state and not to a mob of infuriated and unrestrained individuals. No matter what a man may do, no matter how heinous his crime, he never forfeits his life to a mob. They may take it, may seize and kill him, but such is murder and all those who participate in this unlawful act, whether they are ever identified, indicted or punished, are guilty of murder.

"This spirit of lawlessness, disrespect to the law and defiance of authority, challenged both the right and power of the state to rule and can not be permitted. It may exist, it does exist and may continue to exist, but it must exist, if at all, against the permission, sanction and authority of the state.

INDICTMENTS URGED.

"This mob that operated in your county operated in the broad daylight, in the presence of a number of people who were not members of it. It ought to be possible to identify those who heaped indignity upon your county and they should be brought to the bar of justice.

"There is no other safety for the people except to accord every individual his constitutional right of due process of law."

Judge Searcy directed the grand jury to co-operate with the Bibb jury that is also in session and to interchange evidence. The Monroe jury will be in session all this week.

MURDER CHARGED IN LYNCHING PROBE

Atlanta Constitution

Forsyth, Ga., August 28.—(Special.) Monroe county's grand jury has put in its first day toward carrying out the direction of Judge W. E. H. Searcy, of Griffin in, that the jurors "identify and present to the bar of justice" the men who lynched John ("Cocky") Glover. Judge Searcy left no alternative for the jurors to return indicements against members of the lynching party except for murder. 8-29-22

When the jury recessed for the day ten witnesses had been examined. Forty witnesses from Macon were sitting about the courthouse square, waiting to be summoned before the inquisitorial body.

The investigation will not be concluded this week, but will be recessed over next week in order that Judge Searcy may hold court in Lamar county.

"Murder," said Judge Searcy in addressing the jury, "is the unlawful killing of a human being because of malice, either expressed or implied. There has been committed within the confines of this county, according to reports reaching the court, a most atrocious murder. The victim of the murder had by all rules of humanity, and all rules of law, forfeited his right to live, but he had forfeited it to the law and to the state and not to a mob of infuriated men and unrestrained individuals.

"The fury of a mob never suppressed crime, nor avenged the wrong the victim had done. We must hope on the other hand, for the suppression of crime through the majesty and power of the law, when exercised in channels and through officers the law sets up."

J. M. Wright is foreman of the grand jury.

Lynchings—1922
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Georgia

1039

TWO OF ALLEGED LYNCHERS CAUGHT

Atlanta Constitution 2/17/22

Americus, Ga., February 16.—(Special.)—Benny Devane, one of the several white men charged with lynching Will Jones, colored, Monday night, was arrested and placed in jail at Ellaville today, while Henry Harvey, who was wounded seriously while in the vicinity of Jones' home Sunday night, is being guarded at his residence.

A reward of $100 each for the arrest of Johnny Devane, Arthur Devane, Clarence Robinson, Tom Brown, George Phillips and two unknown soldiers was offered by Ellaville citizens Thursday.

When interviewed in his cell, Devane answered only a few questions, and refused to state whether he was in the lynching party or discuss how he was wounded. His left arm and side are filled with buckshot. Harvey's wounds are so serious he could not be moved to the jail, Sheriff Battle stated. It is alleged that both of the men were shot by Jones Sunday night while they were prowling around his yard.

Shot Sunday Night.

An interesting development in the investigation that came to light today is that Jones was shot and mortally wounded in the fight with the Devanes at the negro's home Sunday night, when the two white men were also wounded. Asccording to a prominent physician, who attended Jones during Sunday night, the negro was shott hrough his body, and the wound was sufficient in itself to cause death. This is an entirely new development, as is also the revelation that Jones was conscious to the time of his death, and talked freely with numerous persons concerning his assailants and the manner in which he received his wounds.

Previously Sheriff Battle had told newspaper men that Jones had made not statement whatever after being found. According to others, however, Jones told in detail of the fight at his house Sunday night, when a crowd of white men, not all of them members of the mob which finally seized and shot him to death at the Lucius Hart farm, came to his home and endeavored to get him to come outside.

The men first wanted a tire patch, saying their car was disabled, the negro is said to have stated. This Jones was unable to give them, he said. He was then asked for a lantern, and replied that he had none. He was then asked for matches, and these were pushed through the door to the men outside. The negro was then commanded to come outside himself, according to his story, and this he refused to do. The whites then attempted to force an entry into the house and Jones slipped out a back door and attempted to escape.

Shoots Two Men.

Benny Devane saw him and fired, the bullet passing entirely through Jones' body, the negro said. The negro then fired and Benny Devane's hand and side were riddled with shot, he continued. Henry Harvey went to the rear of the house to help Benny Devane, and called to Jones, thinking he was Devane. Jones raised his gun and Harvey started to run. Jones fired, filling Harvey's back and groin with shot. The weapon he used was a single barreled shotgun, which he carried with him to the home of his relative, living on the Bob Allen place, where he sought protection. Allen removed him to the Lucius Hart farm in an endeavor to hide him from further harm.

Life Threatened, Deputy Deserts Alleged Lyncher

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 2/19/22

Americus, Ga., February 18.—(Special.)—Because his life was threatened if he remained, Deputy Sheriff Clarence Bivins, of Schley county, who was guarding Henry Harvey, one of the men charged with having lynched Will Jones negro, last Monday, left his post near Ellaville late last night and returned to Ellaville, according to a statement he made today.

Because of his wounds, Harvey had been permitted to remain at his home, with Bivins detailed to guard him there.

Bivins said he left the Harvey home because he was scared.

"Sheriff Battle carried me out to Harvey's home last evening to stand guard over him," he said. "About 9 o'clock I went out into the yard to get a bucket of water. Some one called to me from near the road, a short distance away in the dark, and asked me if I was there to guard Harvey.

"I replied that I was.

"There were at least six men in the party. One of them called to me that if I wanted to live to leave—and I left.

"I didn't even go back in the house.

"My son-in-law, Otto Nelson, was there with me to keep me company, and we got into his car and came back to town. I took them at their word and didn't stay any longer."

Harvey, so far as could be learned early tonight, was therefore, unguarded in his home, unless he has left, as did all of the other alleged lynchers except Benny Devan, now in jail at Ellaville.

ALLEGED LYNCHER HELD BY COURT

3/1/22

Atlanta Constitution

Americus, Ga., February 28.—(Special.)—After a hearing of habeas corpus proceedings here today, Judge Z. A. Littlejohn denied the petition of Benny Devane for release from Schley county jail. The court ordered, however, that Devane be given a preliminary hearing next Friday at Ellaville. Devane is charged with murder in connection with the killing of Will Jones, a negro, who was lynched near Ellaville February 13.

In the hearing, Solicitor-General Jule Felton represented the state, and Attorneys Zach S. Childers, of Americus, and E. J. Hart, of Ellaville, appeared for Devane. The prisoner was brought into court by Sheriff R. E. Battle, of Schley county, and returned with him to Ellaville at the conclusion of the hearing.

Harvey Surrenders.

During the hearing, it was stated that Henry Harvey, another of the alleged lynchers of Jones, had come to the jail in Ellaville last night and surrendered to the authorities.

Outstanding developments included the statement of Solicitor Felton that the state has in its possession a dying statement made by the murdered negro to the effect that Devane shot him on the night of February 12, and the admission of Sheriff Battle that George Phillips, one of the men accused of Jones' murder, had been at his home "once or twice" since a warrant had been issued for his arrest. The officer stated that Phillips lives in Macon county.

May Exhume Body.

Another interesting development was the statement of Judge E. J. Hart, one of the attorneys for the defense, who was present and heard the evidence adduced before the coroner's jury at Ellaville, that "much has been published about the lynching, some of which was not true, but most of which was true." The state has arranged, it was learned, to have the body of Jones disinterred and a post-mortem examination made to determine if possible, which of his wounds actually produced death. About this contention, the whole issue of the guilt or innocence of Benny Devane and Henry Harvey is said to center, and it also will have an important bearing as well upon the cases of the others accused of having lynched the negro.

SCHLEY FARMERS ARE SENTENCED FOR LYNCHING NEGRO

Atlanta Constitution 4/14/22

Americus, Ga., April 13.—(Special.)—Benny Devane, Henry Harvey and Henry Lewis Fulford, of Schley county, today were sentenced to serve one to four years each in the Georgia chaingang for their part in the lynching of Will Jones, negro, near Ellaville, several weeks ago. The men were convicted after a joint trial of "shooting at another," the jury recommending that misdemeanor punishment be imposed. This recommendation was disregarded by Judge Z. A. Littlejohn, before whom the trial was conducted.

Benny Devane and Henry Harvey, together with Tom Brown, George T. Phillips, Clarence Robinson, John Devane and Arthur Devane, were accused by a coroner's jury, which investigated Jones' death, of the negro's murder. The case attracted state-wide attention at the time.

Fulford Arrested.

Benny Devane and Henry Harvey are the only ones among those named by the coroner's jury yet to be arrested, all the others having fled, leaving their families and farms.

Fulford's name was not connected publicly with the case until Monday, when the grand jury returned an indictment, charging that he had accompanied Benny Devane, Henry Harvey and others to the home of Will Jones on Sunday night before the negro was finally killed.

During the battle there, that night both Benny Devane and Henry Harvey were shot by Jones, Harvey being seriously wounded. Fulford was in the courtroom when the grand jury returned the indictment against him and was immediately arrested by Sheriff Battle on instructions from Solicitor-General Jule Felton.

ALBANY GA HERALD
FEBRUARY 16, 1922

A negro named Will Jones was lynched near Ellaville, in Schley county on Monday, and a coroner's jury succeeded in getting the names of several of the men in the lynching party. Warrants were sworn out for a number of alleged lynchers, and at latest report the sheriff of Schley county had started out to round them up. The lynching was in open daylight and was witnessed by a number of persons who testified before the coroner's jury, and it seems that some of the lynchers have been positively identified. Here, now, is what appears to be a splendid opportunity to punish lynchers, and it is to be hoped it will be done. It is time to put a stop to lynchings in Georgia and it will never be done until some lynchers are convicted in the courts of the state and duly punished.

AMERICUS GA RECORDER
FEBRUARY 17, 1922

SCHLEY COUNTY'S INDIGNATION.

A WORTHY negro farmer, who through his thrift, honesty and intelligence and the application of those virtues which the white man teaches the members of his race make good citizens and which all of them should practice, has been killed by a mob in Schley county, seemingly without provocation, and the best people of the community, who appear to be vastly in the majority, are up in arms, demanding that the outrage be punished.

But at the outset apaprently they have run up against a serious snag. After a coroner's jury had made accusations upon evidence heard, and warrants had been placed in the possession of the county sheriff, that officer, according to popular belief supported by the record of net results achieved by him, has been anything but diligent in the performance of his duty. And so indignant has the community become that efforts are to be made to have the sheriff ousted from office by the governor, who alone holds that power.

Evidently there is something rotten about the situation in Schley. Somewhere the machinery of justice is jumping cogs. For results were not attained when they could have been attained and the accused men have not been rounded up, but rather have been given the opportunity to make their get-away, except two wounded men.

The Times-Recorder does not intend here to reflect any conclusion as to the guilt or innocence of the men accused of this crime; but it is merely attempting to point out that the names of the men alleged to have been involved have been duly reported and warrants placed in the hands of the sheriff for service, and that because of his negligence, either wilful or through sheer inefficiency, has permitted men to escape from under his very nose when all he would have had to do would have been to lay his hands on them and arrest them.

But the accused men likely will be caught eventually. If the sheriff does not locate them they probably will drift home one by one to face the music, unless they know and feel that the circumstances are such and the evidence likely to be so conclusive that they will find it too danperous to stand trial voluntarily.

The Times-Recorder believes the good people of Schley county are justified in their indignation, and that they are to be commended upon their insistence that these men be arrested and brought to trial, there to establish their justification for the killing of Will Jones, if there be any, or the guilt or innocence of this apparently atrocious crime. The eyes

of Georgia and the nation are on Schley county at this time. She is on trial. And the verdict is in her own hands.

N. Y. C. MAIL
APRIL 14, 1922

Georgia Lynchers Get Chain Gang Sentence

Americus, Ga., Today.—Benny Devane, Henry Harvey and Henry Lewis Fulford, white residents of Schley county, were sentenced yesterday to serve from one to four years on the chain gang for their part in the lynching of Will Jones, a negro near Ellaville several weeks ago.

The men were convicted on a joint trial on the charge of shooting at another man. The jury recommended misdemeanor punishment, but this recommendation was disregarded by Judge Littlejohn, before whom the men were tried.

N. Y. C. GLOBE
APRIL 14, 1922

THREE LYNCHERS SENTENCED TO GEORGIA CHAIN GANG

AMERICUS, Ga., April 14.—Benny Devane, Henry Harvey, and Henry Lewis Fulford, white residents of Schley County, were sentenced to serve from one to four years on the chain gang for their part in the lynching of Will Jones, a Negro near Ellaville several weeks ago. The men were convicted on a joint trial on the charge of shooting at another man. The jury recommended misdemeanor punishment, but this recommendation was disregarded by Judge Littlejohn, before whom the men were tried.

Men Involved in Lynching Case Denied New Trial

Atlanta Constitution

Americus, Ga., May 28.—(Special.) The latest development in the Will Jones case, involving the alleged lynching of a Schley county negro by a number of white men for an unstated cause, came Saturday in a ruling issued by Judge Z. A. Littlejohn denying the application of Henry Harvey, Bennie Devane and Henry L. Fulford for new trials, following their recent conviction in Schley superior court. 5/29/22

The men named were convicted of an attack upon Jones at the negro's home the night before the actual lynching, and were each sentenced to prison terms, though the jury recommended they be given misdemeanor punishment. The charge against Bennie Devane, Harvey and Fulford was reduced by the jury to "shooting at another" and arguments on their motion for a new trial were heard by Judge Littlejohn in chambers here May 1. Zach Childers, of Americus, and E. J. Hart, of Ellaville, attorneys for the convicted men, will appeal the decision, it was stated today.

GALLOWS CLAIMS LIFE OF DENSON

Lawrenceville

Lawrenton, Ga., June 16.—Jim Denson, negro, who made a sensational escape from a mob bent on lynching him one night a few weeks ago and was later captured and taken to the Bibb county jail for safe-keeping on a charge of criminally assaulting an aged white woman, was hanged this morning. The trap was sprung at 10:15 and Denson was pronounced dead five minutes later.

Denson protested his innocence to the last. He was brought here shortly before the hour for the execution from Macon by Sheriff W. L. Player, and two deputies.

The negro mounted the scaffold coolly and when asked by Rev. M. W. Flanders, pastor of the Methodist church here, to tell whether or not he was guilty, Denson raised his manacled hands and said to the crowd of more than one hundred and fifty:

"I am here before all of you gentlemen, and I got to stand before God today. What I am charged with I am innocent. If I was guilty I would say so, for I will have to answer myself. What I am charged with I am innocent."

McCluskey Fears To Return Home Because of Mob

Negro Who Asks Damages From Alleged Assailants Is Still Here.

Ashbury McCluskey, negro farmer, who recently filed suit in Barrow county against alleged members of a mob who fired into his house and wounded him, is still in Atlanta, afraid to return to his home near Statham. 6/4/22

His attorney, W. C. Munday, of Atlanta, has just returned from a trip to Barrow county and says that he seems well thought of by a number of people in Winder and Statham and that there is considerable local sentiment against the acts of the gang of masked men who not only wounded him but also beat four other negroes in the neighborhood at the same time. No further suits have been filed.

Mr. Munday states that this case is unique in Georgia annals in that it is the first case in which members of a mob have been sued for damages and the first case in which a judge has issued an order restraining the members of a mob from further molestation of the victim.

McCluskey has issued a statement in which he says:

"I want to tell the reason why I have sued the men I recognized the night they came to my house without warning, cursed me and my wife, broke in the windows, chopped down the door with an axe and shot at me and hit me in the arm.

"I am suing them for damages because I am damaged. I am still under the care of a doctor. I have had to leave my home, crops, my wife and my business, and have lost money. I am asking only that justice be done me in the open court, instead of by masked men at night. I am willing to trust my case to the decision of a fair-minded Barrow county jury, and I depend on the fair-minded white people to protect me at the trial.

"I have not sworn out warrants for these men because I just want justice with as little trouble as possible and I think that prosecutions are not up to me."

NEGRO TELLS OF MOB'S ATTACK

Atlanta Constitution

Asbury McCluskey, negro farmer, who recently filed suit in Barrow County against alleged members of a mob of whites who fired into his house and wounded him, is still in Atlanta, afraid to return to his home near Statham fearing further attacks.

His attorney, W. C. Munday, of Atlanta, has returned from a trip to Barrow County and says that Asbury is well thought of by many good people in Winder and Statham and that there is considerable local sentiment against the gang of masked men who not only wounded Asbury but beat four other negroes in the neighborhood. No further suits have been filed.

Mr. Munday states that this case is unique in Georgia annals in that it is the first case in which alleged members of a mob have been sued for damages and the first case in which a judge has issued an order restraining the alleged members of a mob from further molesting the victim.

McCluskey says:

"I have always been proud to have the reputation of an humble and hard-working negro. I have always tried to be respectful and law-abiding; have always paid my taxes. I have never been accused of crime or sued. Before this happened I did not owe anybody anything but had a large sum of money loaned out to others and was on the bonds of some of the white people in Statham.

"I want to tell the reason why I have sued the men I recognized the night they came to my house without warning, cursed me and my wife, broke in the windows, chopped down the door with an ax and shot me in the arm.

"I want to say that all the time they were shooting I was hiding behind a door with my shotgun in my hand. I did not want to use it because I had never shot at a man and hoped they would think I wasn't there and go on off. At last when somebody yelled, 'He is behind the door. Let's shoot it down,' I knew they would kill me, so I stepped out and fired three times and they left.

"I am suing them for damages because I am damaged. I am still under the care of a doctor. I have had to leave my home, crops, my wife and my business, and have lost money. I am asking only that justice be done me in the open court instead of by masked men at night. I am willing to trust my case to the decision of a fair-minded Barrow County jury, and I depend on the fair-minded white people to protect me at the trial.

"I have not sworn out warrants for these men because I only want justice, with as little trouble as possible nad I think that prosecutions are not up to me. I believe the fair-minded Christian white citizens and officers will se that a law abiding negro is as safe in Barrow County as any law-abiding man is anywhere in the world."

Mobbers Compel Deputy to Yield Negroes--Hanged

Atlanta Constitution 7/2/22

Jesup, Ga., July 1.—J. R. Tyre, a deputy sheriff of Wayne county, early this morning telephoned to the home of Sheriff Rogers, of Wayne county, that James Harvey and Joe Jordan, two negroes, convicted of criminal assault and respited yesterday by the governor, had been taken from him near Lane's bridge, in Liberty county, and lynched. The men were en route to Savannah for safekeeping.

$500 REWARD FOR LYNCHERS

Atlanta Constitution

Governor Hardwick Monday offered a reward of $500, the limit provided by the state, for the apprehension and conviction of persons implicated in the lynching near Jesup Saturday morning of two negroes who had been reprieved by the Governor on Friday. Governor Hardwick also wrote Sheriff Rogers, of Wayne County, asking for information on the lynching. 7-4-22

The two negroes, Jim Harvey and Joe Jordan, had been convicted in Wayne County of criminal assault on a white married woman and were sentenced to be hanged Friday. Thursday an appeal for commutation of their sentence was filed with the Georgia Prison Commission, it being alleged that the negroes were not positively identified as the assailants and that other new evidence had been discovered, casting doubt on their guilt.

At the suggestion of the Prison Commission Governor Hardwick granted the negroes a 30-day reprieve until their cases could be investigated. A deputy sheriff started with the negroes from the Jesup jail to Savannah for safe keeping. At Lane's Bridge, in Liberty County, the deputy sheriff was held up and the negroes were lynched.

N. Y. C. MAIL
JULY 13, 1922

Alleged Lyncher Caught

Americus, Ga., Today.—George Phillips, one of seven men wanted for alleged participation in the lynching several months ago of Will Jones, a Schley county negro farmer, has been arrested at Bartow, Fla., Solicitor-General Felton announced today in requesting that an officer be sent for Phillips. Six other men still are fugitives, while three others have been sentenced to a year at hard labor on conviction of an assault upon the negro the night before he was lynched.

GA. GOVERNOR WOULD PUNISH LYNCHERS

Norfolk Journal & Guide

In Letter To N. A. A. C. P. He Has Offered Reward For Arrest Of Murderers. 7-29-22

New York,—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People announces the receipt of a letter from Governor Thomas W. Hardwick of Georgia, regarding the lynching of Joe Jordon and James Harvey, two young colored men, convicted of assault, who were lynched on July 1, at Lanes Bridge, Georgia, after they had been granted a respite of 30 days by the Governor. In reply to the Association's request that not only the lynchers but that Sheriff Rogers of Wayne County, Georgia, and Deputy Sheriff Tyre, who permitted the mob to take the prisoners from him, be adequately punished. The Governor replied:

"As Governor of this State, I have offered the largest reward authorized by law for the perpetrators of this outrage, and I will instruct the court authorities and the Solicitor-General of the judicial circuit in which Wayne County is located, to present the matter to the grand jury at its approaching session. I will do all I can to vindicate the law in this matter."

Lynchings - 1922
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Kansas.

1032

City To Pay $5000 For Mob's Act

Chicago Whip 9/30/22

ABILENE, Kas., Sept. 30.—William Bradley, a porter of the Rock Island Railroad at Herrington, Kas., who was kidnapped by a band of striking shopmen, taken into the country and beaten, has been given judgment for $5,000 damages against the city. He sued the city for $20,000 under the state mob law.

The demonstration against Bradley was made because he refused to leave his job during the shopmen's strike.

The state law under which Bradley obtained judgment is similar to the anti-lynch law now pending in Congress.

Lynchings — 1922

Kentucky.

1033

1033

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

GOVERNOR REMOVES KENTUCKY JAILER

Montgomery Advertiser 9-12-1922

(Associated Press)

FRANKFORT, KY., Sept. 11.—Sam Moss, jailer of Scott county, was removed from office late today by Gov. Morrow, who said in a statement that it had been made to appear to him that the jailer had "knowingly and wilfully delivered Jack Eaton into the hands of a mob" at Georgetown, the night of August 29.

Eaton, a show-man, was whipped and the cuts made by the lash were filled with turpentine by a mob that seized him at the door of the Scott county jail after he had been released when parents of several little girls refused to push a charge of assault against him.

The governor said no reports of the incident had been made to him officially, but after receiving private information he caused an investigation to be made by a private detective.

Lynchings—1922
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Michigan

1034

JACKSON MICH PATRIOT NEWS
AUGUST 19, 1922

'LYNCHING MOB' PLEADS GUILTY

Men Who Took Part in Bringing Lee and Herman Dudgeon to Confess to Murder Released

—A. P. Leased Wire—

White Cloud, Mich., Aug. 18.—Nineteen men who participated in the "lynching party" several weeks ago, which brought from Lee and Herman Dudgeon, a confession to implication in the slaying of Romie Hodell, pleadged guilty before Justice Reed today to charges of assault and battery, or disorderly conduct, and were fined $25 and costs. The penalty however, was suspended and the respondents released.

Prosecutor Branstrom announced Mrs. Media Hodell probably would go on trial next week on a charge of murdering David Hodell, 67 years old, her father-in-law. She is alleged to have confessed to the killing of Romie Hodell, her husband, and the latter's father.

A report from the state chemist at Lansing is expected tomorrow and this will form the basis of the state's case. If the report shows the presence of poison in the vital organs of the elder Hodell, the prosecutor said, the trial can be ended in short order.

Lynchings—1922 Oklahoma. 1030

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Two Negroes Most Active in Lynching, White Men Assert in Pleading Guilt

OKLAHOMA OKLA OKLAHOMAN
JANUARY 25, 1922

Nathan Butler, negro who was the first to confess to a part in the lynching of Jake Brooks, negro packing plant employe, was one of the most insistent members of the party and took a leading part throughout, according to statements in court Tuesday of white men who confessed parts in the lynching.

Lee Whitley, in his statement of confession in court, declared Butler tied Brook's hands behind him, and that Allen brought the rope to tie Brooks' hands.

"I told these boys, these two negroes, and the rest of them that I would go and leave this fellow alone and when I got back there, why, they was ready to string him up and these two fellows lifted up the end and he says, referring to Brooks, 'Well, get him up there,'" Whitley said in his confession.

"Finally, one of them there, I can not tell who, says: 'Negro, get your d—— head under this rope,' he says, 'I ain't got time to talk to you.'

"And so, I walked up there and Nathan put the rope around his neck and just lifted him up," Whitley declared. "Him and that other little colored fellow lifted him up and one of the boys tied the rope to the tree and let him down (referring to Brooks.) I believe he (Brooks) said, 'Let me down easy,' and, after they let him down, he said, 'Well, goodbye, boys.'"

"These two negroes said, 'Well, beat it;' so we started on and then Nathan wanted to get a gun and go back and shoot this fellow with it and then I told him, 'No.'"

John Harris, who refused to waive preliminary hearing and who will be arraigned Wednesday morning is implicated by Whitley in his confession. Harris, Whitley said, was the driver which Brooks was hanged was of the second car. The rope with brought from Harris' car, Whitley said in his confession. It was Harris' car Whitley said, which had apparently run out of gasoline.

Charles Polk, in his confessio[illegible] so declared that Allen and Butl[illegible] had taken leading parts and indicate[illegible] hat Nathan had threatened to "[illegible]get" Brooks.

"Nathan was talking and said, 'I told you I would get you,'" Polk said. "And this colored fellow, (referring to Brooks) said, 'Well, Nathan, I was drunk.'

"Nathan said 'Well, that don't help you a bit,'" Polk said.

It was Butler, Polk said who went and got the rope, and tied the rope to the tree, and who put Brooks' head in the noose. Butler was the one who told Brooks to get "his d—— head under the rope," Polk declared. Allen and Butler both raised Brooks off the ground, Polk said.

Polk also implicated Harris in the lynching by his confession. The rope with which Butler was hanged was obtained from Harris' car, Polk declared.

Butler and Allen, in confessing their part in the lynching, declared they were coerced and that they did not want to hang Brooks. Allen especially denied taking any active part in the actual lynching and stated he tried to keep them from hanging Brooks, who was his cousin.

Elmer Yearta, in his confession, said he did not know they were going to lynch the man. He said it was their intention and his understanding that they were going out and break up a dance where "scabs" were attending, but he did not know there was to be a lynching.

OKLAHOMA OKLA OKLAHOMAN
JANUARY 25, 1922

RUINS SEARCHED

Officers Unable Yet to Find Definite Clue to Follow.

Five negroes, four of them striking packing employes, are being held in connection with the death Sunday morning of Willis and Mercy Hall, negroes, who were burned to death in their one-room shack near Sandtown, Charles McCloud, investigator for Governor Robertson, announced late Tuesday.

The negroes were arrested following statements made by Roosevelt Pepper, son of the dead woman. There is little question that the two negroes were murdered before the house was fired McCloud declared.

No Definite Conclusion Reached

The negroes are Mack Maples "Minus" Maples, brothers, Ray Williams, John Rose and Roosevelt Pepper. The arrest of the four negroes followed questioning of Pepper, who declared that his step-father and himself had both been threatened by strikers. Hall was employed at the Morris plant.

"We have nothing definite in this matter," McCloud said Tuesday. "We are of the opinion, however, that both the negroes were murdered, and their house fired in an attempt to hide the crime. Beyond that, we have no definite clues. Either this Pepper boy is lying as fast he can, or he is crazy we can't decide which."

Inquest Not Yet Called

A. W. McWilliams, justice of the peace who acted as coroner in examining the bodies of the negroes, declared that they had been murdered before burned. No inquest has been ordered, however.

Every indication was present, McCloud declared, that Mercy Hall had been decapitated prior to the fire. The woman's head cannot be found in the ruins of the shanty.

It was well known among negroes that the woman usually carried money in a little purse which was suspended from a string about her neck. A diligent search of the ruins failed to disclose any trace of the purse or of the gold coins reputed to have been in the purse.

Ax Found in Ruins

An ax, with the handle nearly burned off, was found among the ruins and is supposed to have been used in murdering the two negroes before the shack was fired.

All the negroes arrested Tuesday declared that they knew nothing of the murder or fire. Eleven negroes have been arrested, but only five are being held. The others were released after questioning.

OKLAHOMA OKLA OKLAHOMAN
JANUARY 21, 1922

Governor Points to Possibility Of Ouster Suits and Delays Decision on Guard.

CHARGES MAY BE FILED

Formal Accusations Against Two Men Expected Saturday by County Attorney.

Five more white men, said to be striking packing employes, were arrested Friday by order of Forrest L. Hughes, county attorney, and Ben B. Dancy, sheriff, who are conducting a probe of the lynching of Jake Brooks, negro packing employe. With the arrests made Friday, the total number made so far in connection with the investigation reached twelve. While Hughes refused Friday to make public his progress in the probe he intimated that some definite charges "might" be filed Saturday against men now held in the county jail.

The questioning of men arrested in connection with the lynching was carried on virtually all night Friday night by both Hughes and Dancy. The men arrested are all being held incommunicado in the county jail, and are being subjected to severe grilling.

Governor to "See It Through."

With the request for martial law for Oklahoma City still under advisement, Governor Robertson indicated late Friday that he may make a decision Saturday.

"I believe in the biblical saying that when a man has placed his hand to the plow that he should not look backward," Governor Robertson said Friday noon to the committees from the two mass meetings of Thursday. "I have hesitated to enter into the situation because of the tremendous consequences involved, but now that I'm in it, I shall see it through," he said.

Five May Bring Ouster Suit.

Governor Robertson pointed out that ouster proceedings may be instituted by five persons against any of the authorities for failure to enforce the law. He could appoint special prosecutors for such work if the committee should decide upon that action and present proof of failure to enforce the law, he said. A grand jury investigation of affairs would be useless, the governor agreed with members of the first mass meeting committee.

The governor was in conference for three hours with the committee appointed at a mass meeting at the chamber of commerce Thursday morning, to ask for protection for the city, and with a second one appointed at a meeting at the courthouse Thursday night to protest against martial law.

Hughes Expects More Arrests.

As the probe continues, more arrests will be made, Hughes said, as each man is implicating more in his statements. All statements taken from the men are rigidly guarded and the names of those arrested kept secret.

Hundreds of vagrancy warrants, with name spaces left blank, were prepared Friday by Hughes to be used in the drive against all "undesirables" which will be launched by deputy sheriffs.

"It is my intention to rid this city of the hundreds of vags and agitators who have drifted in here from other places since the strike," Hughes said Friday. The "drive" against these persons will start soon, he promised.

Two negro women, Minnie Butler and the wife of Robert Allen, wives of two negro strikers arrested Tuesday in connection with the lynching, were released Friday by order of Hughes. Butler and Allen, however, are held. Butler, according to Malinda Brooks, widow of the lynched negro, knows the details of the lynching. So far he has refused to admit knowledge of the lynching, Hughes said.

Packingtown Declared Quiet.

Conditions at Packingtown have been quiet all week, Sheriff Dancy declared Friday. Although deputies continually are arresting men in connection with the investigation, little or no attempt to get them from jail by habeas corpus writs is being made by union attorneys. As soon as any attempt to obtain the release of men held for questioning is made, Hughes declared Friday, murder charges will be filed against them, a charge not bailable in Oklahoma.

R. A. Cook, manager of the open shop division of the Chamber of Commerce, denied Friday the statement made by one of the speakers Thursday night to the effect that John H. Shirk, chairman of the open shop division has been instrumental in bringing "diseased" workmen to the city to handle meat at the packing houses. "The open shop division has not brought one man here to work at the packing plants," Cook asserted.

OKLAHOMA OKLA OKLAHOMAN
JANUARY 26, 1922

HE ASKS FOR LENIENCY

Harris and McAlister Are To Be Arraigned Thursday Before Donnell.

Oscar T. Smith, 28 years old, eighth man arrested in connection with the lynching of Jake Brooks, negro packing employe, entered a plea of guilty to the charge of murder filed against him late Wednesday afternoon before Judge James I. Phelps of the district court and was sentenced to life imprisonment in the state penitentiary.

John V. Harris and Robert McAlister, also held in connection with the lynching, will be arraigned Thursday morning on the charge of murder before T. F. Donnell, justice of the peace. McAlister and Harris are the only two of the eight men arrested who have refused to waive preliminary hearing and plead guilty to murder charges filed against them as a result of the lynching.

"Didn't Know Negro Taken."

Smith, in entering his plea, asked for leniency.

"I want to ask you to do the best by me that you can," he said to Judge Phelps.

"Some of us boys in the party did not want to hang the negro," Smith said. "It was our intention when we started, at least it was so understood by us, that we were going out

to call this negro to his front door and hit him, then go on away.

"Instead, several of the hotheaded boys grabbed the man and put him into the car. We did not even know they had him; we thought they hit him and we were going on away. When we got out in the country, we found out that they had the negro in the car.

Five Had Guns, He Says.

"We tried to talk them out of hanging him. Two of the negroes and three of the white men, had guns. Charley Polk, Robert McAlister and myself told them not to hang him.

"The men who had the guns threw them on us and said, 'If any of you fellows turn yellow, we will do you the same way the negro is going to be done,'" Smith said in court.

George F. Short, assistant attorney general, J. K. Wright, assistant county attorney, who are prosecuting the lyching cases and Forrest L. Hughes, county attorney, recommended that Smith be sentenced to life imprisonment.

Wife Shows Courage.

Bravery of Smith's wife, who was at his side in the courtroom as the sentence was imposed, featured the procedure. Mrs. Smith, a pretty little woman about 22 years old, did not give way to the usual emotional spectacles which attend such a solemn happening.

Although she heard her husband sentenced to life imprisonment, next to the most severe penalty which can be inflicted in Oklahoma, she retained her composure.

"Of course I am going to stand by my husband," she said. "He was led into this. I am sure that something will be done in the future which will not only clear him in the eyes of the public of this unfortunate happening, but I feel that we shall be reunited in the future."

"Be Good, Honey,"

At the jail, Mrs. Smith kissed her husband goodbye as he was led back to his cell.

"Be good, honey," was all she said.

Smith is the sixth man to be sentenced to life imprisonment in connection with the lynching January 14 of Brooks, a negro packing employe who was taken from his home by two motor cars full of strikers and lynched. The others who were sentenced are Robert Allen, and Nathan Butler, negroes, Elmer Yearta, Charles Polk and Lee Whitley.

Polk, Whitley, Yearta and the two negroes were sentenced Tuesday after they entered pleas of guilty to participation in the lynching of Brooks. All confessed to their implication in the crime.

Duncan Held As Witness.

One man, John Yearta, brother of Elmer Yearta is still to be arrested in connection with the lynching. He is a fugitive from justice. A warrant charging him with murder was issued Monday. Authorities are looking for Yearta in Arkansas.

The men were arrested following the confession of Nathan Butler. Harris and McAlister refuse to waive preliminary hearings, and will fight the charges filed against them. Both men have been implicated in the confessions of the other six. They are held at the county jail.

A ninth man, "Curley" Duncan, taxi driver, is being held as a witness. Duncan was said by several of those who confessed to have been the driver of a third car which was to have been used in the lynching party, but which was not because of some mechanical defect.

Wednesday it was undecided whether to file charges of conspiracy against Duncan. George F. Short, assistant attorney general and

Incomplete

OKLAHOMA OKLA OKLAHOMAN
JANUARY 27, 1922

POLK MAY TRY TO FIGHT CASE

Application for Withdrawal Of Lynching Case Plea Possible, Lawyers Say.

Attorneys who are defending two strikers accused of a part in the lynching of Jake Brooks are considering the filing of an application to withdraw the plea of guilty made Tuesday by Charles Polk, one of the men sentenced to life imprisonment for participation in the lynching, it became known Thursday.

"If this is true, and such an application is granted, and the defendant stands trial, I shall ask the death penalty in prosecuting," George F. Short, assistant attorney general who is directing the prosecution of the alleged lynchers declared, when told of the contemplated action.

No definite action has been decided upon, E. J. Giddings and Ross N. Lillard, attorneys who are identified with the contemplated defense of the two strikers held in connection with the lynching, said. Both attorneys declared, however, that serious consideration was being given to such action.

Arraignment of Others Delayed Again

Polk confessed Tuesday to participation in the lynching, and entered a plea of guilty to the murder charges which had been filed against him. He was sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge James I. Phelps, of the district court, before whom the plea was made.

John V. Harris and Robert McAlister, strikers implicated in the lynching by the confessions of the six men who have pleaded guilty, will be arraigned before T. F. Donnell, justice of the peace, some time Friday on charges of murder, Short said Thursday. Harris and McAllister have refused to waive preliminary hearings. The death penalty will be asked when their cases are tried before a jury Short said.

As the lynching incident draws to a close, the real "inside" information as to how this or that participant was arrested, is being made public. How Oscar T. Smith, eighth member of the lynching party, who Wednesday pleaded guilty to the charge of murder, was arrested was told Thursday.

Smith Found Through Ruse.

Smith, the night the lynching occurred, left the city for parts unknown. Deputy sheriffs assigned to apprehend him could find no trace of his whereabouts without arousing suspicion.

Spear Crossley, deputy sheriff, walked by the house occupied by Smith's mother in the Capitol Hill district and saw Smith's motor car parked in the sideyard.

He knocked at the door. Smith's mother answered.

"Where is Oscar?" he asked casually.

"He is not here," the mother replied.

"Shucks, that's too bad, I was dickering with him the other day to buy his car, and I brought the money out with me," Crossley said. "Where could I reach him?"

Telegram Brings Quick Results.

According to Crossley Mrs. Smith readily told him that Oscar was in Mart, Texas, with his wife, who was visiting there.

A wire to Mart asking the arrest of Smith was sent immediately. In less than five hours, Smith was arrested. He waived extradition and returned to Oklahoma City of his own free will. He made a complete confession of his part in the lynching.

Who is retaining counsel for Harris and McAllister? Harris and McAllister have both refused to waive preliminary hearing and will stand trial in the district court on charges of murder which have been filed against them.

Fred Kemp, secretary of the Butcher Workmen's union, declared Thursday that the executive council of the local organization has not authorized the engagement of counsel in the case. Both Ross Lillard and E. J. Giddings, attorneys identified with the union cause, have visited the county jail in the guise of counsel for the men.

Employed by Harris, Lillard Said.

Thursday night, Lillard, when asked if he represented Harris as employed by the union, declared emphatically that he did not, that he was representing Harris by his own request.

Monday, Harris, when asked if he had desired counsel or had sent word either by his relatives or friends to engage counsel, stated that he had not. The question was put and the answer made in the presence of several disinterested witnesses.

McAllister Thursday declared that he did not ask for counsel. He spoke freely about the matter. When asked if he had ever been in jail before, he related that about two years ago he served fourteen days in jail after having been arrested on a bootlegging charge. The arrest was made during the time when O. A. Cargill was county attorney. McAllister said that the case was thrown out of court and that he was not tried.

Giddings, when questioned regarding by whom he was retained, stated that he and Lillard usually handled all cases in which union men were involved in the county or city courts that he and Lillard were retained by the central trades and labor council, which body is the local executive body of the America.. Federation of Labor. Lillard denied, however, that the unions figured in any way in his activities in behalf of Harris.

Lillard Found With Negroes.

It was Lillard who with Fred Kemp was found closeted with Nathan Butler and Robert Allen, negroes first arrested in connection with the lynching of Brooks. Deputies from the office of Ben B. Dancy, sheriff, were sent to the city jail to take Butler and Allen to the county jail.

When they arrived, they declared that they found Kemp and Lillard closeted with the two negroes in the jailer's office, with no other witnesses present, and that Lillard and Kemp both resented their intrusion and asked them to withdraw from the room. However, the negroes were taken to the county jail.

It was Butler who first confessed to participation in the lynching, and it was through his confession that the other seven men were arrested and five of them convicted. McAllister and Harris were both implicated as members of the lynching party in the confessions of Butler, Allen, Polk, Yearta and Whitley.

LYNCHERS GET LIFE

A NEWS despatch reads:

Messenger Feb. 1922

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 24.—Five men, two of them colored men, were sentenced to life imprisonment in the state penitentiary when they entered pleas of guilty in district court here today to charge of complicity in the lynching of Jake Brooks, colored packing house worker, here the night of January 14.

New York

The white men are Lee Whitley, Elmer Yearta, striking members of the Butcher Workmen's Union, and Charles Polk, a union sympathizer. The colored men are Robert Allen, cousin of the man who was lynched, and Nathan Butler, and also are union men.

Most people will miss the significance of the swift justice dealt out here. It is a first class example of capital protecting its interests even to the extent of favoring a Negro above white men. What happened here was this: In Oklahomoa City and several other meat packing centers, white and colored union men have been on strike. The employers are hiring white and black workers to take their places. Thus seeing men in their places when winter's cold and starvation are facing them—infuriates both black and white workers. (When a man's life is endangered, when he is being undermined for his job, he will fight to the death against any one regardless of race, creed or color.) White men will murder white men. Negroes will kill Negroes. And—as happened in Oklahoma City—both white and colored men will combine to lynch either a Negro or a white person. In the above instance, the Negro lynched was a cousin of one of the lynchers.

This is simply an evidence of the terrible struggle for existence. It shows the intensity with which the battle for life is waged. It demonstrates how weak are family ties when cold and hunger threaten. It exposes how empty are racial claims in the presence of an undermined job.

In short, it re-enacts the scenes in the war for work, the battle for wages, the struggle for life. It cannot be repeated too often that at present a man's job is his life. With wages he purchases food, fuel, clothing and shelter. On these life depends. Hence, with wages he purchases life. When wages are high, life is high. When wages are low, life is low.

Of course we would not be understood as defending lynching of anybody—white or black. What we are doing is explaining the bitterness which the struggle for life assumes. It is one of the most cogent arguments for demanding a new order of society. Humanity, speed the day!

Lynchings—1922
Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

Oklahoma.

1031

OKLAHOMA POINTS THE WAY AGAIN!

Houston Tex. Informer 1/28/22

If all the Southern states possessed governors with backbone, grit, stamina and "guts" (to employ a common vernacular) like Governor Robertson of Oklahoma, mob-law in its many manifestations and ramifications would not hold such undisputed and unchallenged sway in Dixie.

Last week several white mobocrats, assisted, it is alleged, by two colored stool-pigeons and tools, seized a colored packing house strike-breaker, Jake Brooks, and treated him to a dose of the famous American pastime.

The governor immediately ordered an investigation, something very unusual in the South when a colored citizen is lynched.

Then followed eight arrests, six whites and two blacks—something still more unusual in such cases.

The governor ordered an immediate trial of the alleged lynchers and when the county attorney showed an inclination to postpone the arraignment of the men, the chief magistrate of the Sooner State ordered the assistant attorney general to prosecute the cases.

Then the surprise of the ages and the most unusual incident was enacted: Five of the white lynchers, who confessed their crime in the district court at Oklahoma City, Tuesday, were given life sentences by a white jury.

Public officials of the Robertson type will strike terror into the hearts of lynchers and law-breakers and violators, and such court and official actions will have a very sobering effect upon these mobocrats and anarchists who take the law into their hands and overthrow constituted authority whenever they feel so disposed.

The lynched colored man had not committed the "unmentionable crime," about which our Southern congressmen are so blatantly and vociferously shouting in Washington in opposition to the Dyer anti-lynching measure; but he had simply taken a job vacated by strikers as a means of securing food and sustenance for his family and himself.

This, in the eyes of these self-appointed custodians of public weal and welfare, was a very grave offense and one deserving of summary punishment with the extreme penalty.

It is a pity that they were not given a dose of their same medicine, only through constituted channels and within rather than without the law.

But Oklahoma and her brave and courageous governor have shown the way for the pussy-footing, vacillating, spineless, and cowardly public officials in other American states and communities, and have rendered the state and nation a signal, meritorious and incalculable service.

The Informer does not assume this position because the outraged victim was identified with the colored race, but because it presages a better day in the South and shows to the world that even in "Bam" white men can be found who will not flinch nor swerve from duty and who will go the limit to see that the law is respected or its defilers and prostitutors feel the strong arm of constituted authority.

Lynch law must go! Under no conditions nor circumstances is it warranted or justified. It is diametrically opposed to, at variance with and antagonistic to law and order and orderly processes of legal procedure.

When employed even as a means to punish those who have violated the law, these self-appointed chastisers and punishers not only exceed their legal prerogative, but they even overthrow law and order and establish in its stead disorder and chas—anarchy.

Seeking to inflict punishment upon some individual law breaker, these mobbists and modern reformers and crusaders become anarchists, in that they threaten the very existence of the state and throw defiance in the face of constituted and regularly appointed authority.

They defeat the very purpose and outrage the very cause they profess such zeal and devotion to promote and advance by means of terrorism, violence and destruction.

The court decision in Oklahoma will be called drastic by the friends and advocates of mobocracy, but there is only one way to break up lynching bees in this country and that is to treat the lynchers and would-be mobbists rough: mete out a few life sentences and more death sentences to them and the lynching malady will lose some of its potency and peculiar charm and attraction.

Some will contend that the spectre of the federal anti-lynch bill, hanging over the South's head like Damocles' sword, played an important part in the deliberation and decision of the Oklahoma court: that these severe sentences were meted out to those lynching culprits to forestall invasion of state rights by the national government.

Three cheers for Governor Robertson of Oklahoma! He had the hardihood and nerve to perform his duty, giving no thought to future elections, but to the supremacy of the law and his oath and obligation. May the sentences inflicted stick!

He may be the only genus of his tribe, but may his tribe increase; then mob-law and anarchy in Dixie will cease. For—

"Right is right since God is God,
And right the day must win;
To doubt would be disloyalty,
To falter would be sin."

SPEEDY JUSTICE ADMINISTERED TO LYNCHING PARTY

1/25/22 Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press)

OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLA., Jan. 24.—Justice was speedily administered in the district court here today when five self-confessed members of the party that lynched Jake Brooks, negro packing house worker, here on the night of January 14, pleaded guilty before Judge James I. Phelps and were sentenced to life imprisonment.

The five are: Lee Whitley, 29 years old; Charles Polk, 18; Selmer Yearta, 19, white men, and Robert Allen, 27, and Nathan Butler, 40, negroes.

Whitley and Yearta are members of the Butcher Workmen's Union on strike at the packing plants here, while Polk is an admitted stirke sympathizer. Allen is a cousin of the negro who was lynched. The speed with which the cases of these five men were disposed of today as well as the heavy sentences imposed, set a record for trials of alleged members of lynching parties, according to R. E. Wood, assistant attorney general. Mr. Wood said today he knew of no case in which the participants of a lynching were tried so speedily and given such heavy sentences.

Judge Phelps told the defendants their conduct warranted the electric chair. He declared it was a question of upholding the law, not of "whether the strikers shall win or lose". Each defendant told the judge he did not know whether union officials had any knowledge of the intention or acts of the men in the lynching.

1031

Three White And Two Colored Men, Striking Packers, Confess Murder And Are Speedily Tried And Given Heavy Sentences

St. Louis Argus 1/27/22

OKLAHOMA CITY, Ok., Jan. 24.—Justice was speedily administered and in heavy portions in District Court here today when five self-confessed members of the party that lynced Jake Brooks, Negro packing-house worker here, on the night of January 14 pleaded guilty before Judge James I. Phelps and were sentenced to life imprisonment in the State Penitentiary at McAlester. The five are: Lee Whitley, 29; Charles Polk, 18; Elmer Yearta, 19; white men, also Robert Allen, 27 and Nathan Butler, 40, Negroes.

Whitney and Yearta are members of the Butcher Workmen's Union on strike at the packing plants here, while Polk is an admitted strike sympathizer. Allen is a cousin of the Negro who was lynched.

The speed with which the cases of these five men were disposed to today, as well as the heavy sentences imposed set a record for trials of alleged members of lynching parties, according to R. E. Wood, Assistant Attorney General. Wood said today he knew of no case in which the participants of a lynching were tried so speedily and given such heavy sentences.

Climax Of Strike

Occasional acts of violence which marked the strike of the packing employees beginning Monday, December 5 reached the climax Saturday night when Jake Brooks, a Negro employed at the Wilson plant was taken from his home at 1805 East Fourth St. by two motor car loads of strikers, spirited away to an isolated spot southeast of the Capitol Hill district and hung from the limb of a large tree.

Brooks, who had been ill, was sitting at the supper table with his wife and little daughter when th elynching party arrived. Two white men, their hats pulled down to shade their faces

knocked at the door. Brook's little daughter answered.

Armed Men Sieze Negro

"Does Jake Brooks live here?" she was asked.

She replied he did. The two men, revolvers drawn, forced their way into the house and seized Brooks.

"Nathan Buttler turned you in," one of the men said. "We are going to fix you up right."

Brooks was forced into one of the two motor cars. The party sped away. Brooks was never seen until the following Tuesday when his body was seen swinging from the tree by B. A. Reed, 1005 East Fifth Street.

Sheriff Ben Dancy started an investigation of Brooks' disappearance early Sunday after Brooks' wife reported that the police refused to go outside of the city to search for her husband.

Situation Becomes Tense.

The discovery of Brooks' body brought about a tense situation which resulted in an appeal being made for the institution of martial law. Governor Robertson offered a reward of $2,000 for the apprehension and conviction of the lynchers. A reward of $500 for each of the party was offered by the Chamber of Commerce.

Nathan Butler, another Negro implicated by Allen's confession, and Allen were arrested by Dancey's order the Sunday ofter Brooks' disappearance. They were released, but were "shadowed" by deputy sheriffs in hope of obtaining information. The day Brooks' body was discovered, Allen and Butler were arrested by the city police.

Many Arrests Made

Dancy ordered the men brought to the county jail where he questioned them. Deputy sheriffs immediately began to make additional arrests. A total of twenty-five arrests were made. The men were held in separate cells and questioned.

Thursday Allen confessed to Dancy. He declared he would have told about the lynching the day after it occured but that he feared his life would be taken by the strikers.

"The men out there (referring to Packingtown) would get me if I told," Allen said to Sheriff Dancy. "They told me the night they hung Brooks that they would hang me too if I told. They all took an oath not to say anything about the hanging."

WHITE MEN MUST SERVE JAIL TERMS

Chicago Defender

Members of Oklahoma City Mob Convicted of Part in Jake Brooks Lynching

1/28/22

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 27.—Hot indignation on the one side and surprise, unbelief on the other were the outstanding sentiments expressed by those who made comment on the imposition of life sentences upon five members of the mob which lynched Jake Brooks, a packing house employee, two weeks ago

The white men sentenced to life imprisonment were Charles Polk, Lee Whitely and Elmer Yearta. The latter two were strikers and Polk was a sympathizer. The others were Robert Allen, cousin of Brooks, and Nathan Butler.

Much interest followed the trial after it was known that men who were actually in the lynching party had been apprehended. Crowds gathered at the courthouse during each session of the court. Following the arrest of over twenty men at Ardmore and the outburst of public sentiment against them in connection with high-handed Ku Klux outlawry, the outcome of the trial here was watched with the most intense interest.

Big Citizens Fight Outlaws

A concerted movement has been on among strong figures in Oklahoma life since the riot in Tulsa last June with a view to changing in some way the tendency toward mob violence which has been growing in the state. The first notice of the fact that something like justice was to be expected in Oklahoma City was the notice of the police chief to the Ku Klux Klan that the activities of that notorious organization would not in any way be tolerated within the limits where he had authority.

When the men were brought into court they pleaded guilty to being among the members of the party which murdered Brooks.

Brooks had been hired by a packing firm in this city and had gone to his work despite the protests of the white strikers. Repeated warnings and threats had failed to shake his determination to stay on the job. One morning Brooks was missed. A search lasting over a week failed to give any clue as to his whereabouts. Eventually a farmer discovered the body in the woods about eight miles from this city. Once the authorities knew that the man had been lynched, they set out to find the doers of the deed. The five men sentenced, and two others were the result of the hunt.

Union Not in It

An effort was made in the court to find out what part the union organization might have played in the lynching of Brooks, but the condemned men maintained that the murder had been an independent affair.

White citizens of this city have their eyes on the lynching bill now before congress. During the last few weeks judges in courts in various towns have come out with strong statements condemning lynching and all other forms of outlawry. The sentencing of these three white men is the first direct result of the sentiment which is crystalling against the murder of American citizens in this state.

Polk, Whitely and Yearta will serve their sentences in the state penintentiary. No notice has yet been filed trial for an appeal. The three men now being held by the state will also be tried in connection of Brooks.

Justice For the Negro In Oklahoma: Five Men Sentenced to Life Imprisonment

Birmingham Ala.

When President Harding visited Birmingham several weeks ago he addressed himself to the Negro question, declaring in effect that the Negro was entitled to and should be accorded absolute justice in the courts of our land. The President's arguments were unatackable. His opinions are those of all straight-thinking men. Straight-thinking, fair-minded citizens are not swayed by racial prejudices. Judges that administer justice impartially and juries selected from amongst our best citizenship do actually strive to approximate justice for all men, be their color white or black. Although the laws have been frequently prostituted to save white slayers of black men from punishment, the time is rapidly approaching when no difference at all will be made.

An instance of the swift working out of justice was that of the trial of five men in Oklahoma for the lynching of a Negro Within eleven days after the atrocity these five men were sentenced to life imprisonment. Whether they deserved the electric chair or not may be a fair question. The presiding judge was of the opinion that the act prompted capital punishment. But at least such court decisions as this warrant a belief that no matter whether perfect justice is being accorded the Negroes everywhere, the drift is in the right direction. The Oklahoma trial will be an inspiration for other judges, other juries, both in the North and the South, for absolute and impartial treatment of all offenders.

(From Birmingham News Jan. 25.)

The News is optimistic in its opinion regarding the future dealings with the Negro in our courts of law, and otherwise. It is pleasing to read these words expressed by this great organ, and to note also the very plain admission made as to the disposition and practice of some of our courts in the past.

Let us hope that many others have the same vision of The News, and will labor that justice such as discussed in The News article will be a reality for the American Negro.

LIFE TERMS FOR 5 IN OKLAHOMA'S STRIKE SLAYING

Chicago Daily Bulletin 1/25/22

Oklahoma City, Okla., Jan. 24.—Five men, two of them colored men, were sentenced to life imprisonment in the state penitentiary when they entered pleas of guilty in District court here today to charges of complicity in the lynching of Jake Brooks, colored packing house worker, here the night of Jan. 14.

The white men are Lee Whitley, Elmer Yearta, striking members of the Butcher Workmen's union, and Charles Polk, a union sympathizer. The colored men are Robert Allen, cousin of the man who was lynched, and Nathan Butler, and also are union men.

Union President Summoned.

Fort Worth, Tex., Jan. 24.—John Malone, district president of the Butcher Workmen's union—his jurisdiction covering Texas and Oklahoma—was called to Oklahoma City today. It was not known whether his visit has reference to the martial law threat following the violent death of three colored packing house workmen.

SEVENTH LYNCHER IS GIVEN LIFE IN PEN

Commercial Appeal

Oklahoma Man Enters Plea of Guilty.

Memphis Tenn. 1/31/22

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Jan. 30.—Robert McAllister, the seventh man to receive a life term in the penitentiary for complicity in the lynching here the night of Jan. 14 of a non-union negro packing house worker, was sentenced today when he entered a plea of guilty to a charge of murder before District Judge James I. Phelps and told the story of his participation in the hanging in open court.

An Oklahoma judge has sentenced three white men to life prison terms for having taken part in a lynching. A general administration of that sort of justice throughout the country would have killed the Dyer bill before it was even thought of.

Atlanta Constitution 2/1/22

PITTSBURG PA. DISPATCH
JANUARY 26, 1922

Lynchers Get Life Terms

The sentencing of five men, three whites, two Negroes, to life terms in the penitentiary for complicity in the lynching of a Negro near Oklahoma City may not act as a deterrent in that section, but is notable as a change in procedure which may well be given attention as a possible lesson for the future. All that saved these men from the electric chair was the liberality of the prosecuting attorney in accepting their unsupported statements that they had no active hand in the actual lynching and did not know a lynching was contemplated when they took the victim in a motor car a few miles into the country where a mob was in waiting. It was this that changed a death sentence to a life term, since all pleaded guilty.

The participation of two young Negroes and the fact that the affair was the outgrowth of an industrial dispute throws a novel atmosphere about this mobbing. It seems to show that even Negroes may become intoxicated with the lynching poison and that almost any reason is enough for lynching a Negro in certain spots, notably Oklahoma and Texas. When Negroes take part in lynching a Negro in the course of an industrial strike, the country may find itself discussing the economic interpretation of mobbery.

BIRMINGHAM ALA NEWS
JANUARY 25, 1922

Justice For The Negro In Oklahoma: Five Men Sentenced To Life Imprisonment.

When President Harding visited Birmingham several weeks ago he addressed himself to the negro question, declaring in effect that the negro was entitled to and should be accorded absolute justice in the courts of our land. The President's arguments were unattackable. His opinions are those of all straight-thinking men. Straight-thinking, fair-minded citizens are not swayed by racial prejudices. Judges that administer justice impartially and juries selected from amongst our best citizenship do actually strive to approximate justice for all men, be their color white or black. Although the laws have been frequently prostituted to save white slayers of black men from punishment, the time is rapidly approaching when no difference at all will be made.

An instance of the swift working out of justice was that of the trial of five men in Oklahoma for the lynching of a negro. Within eleven days after the atrocity these five men were sentenced to life imprisonment. Whether they deserved the electric chair or not may be a fair question. The presiding judge was of the opinion that the act prompted capital punishment. But at least such court decisions as this warrant a belief that no matter whether perfect justice is being accorded the negroes everywhere, the drift is in the right direction. The Oklahoma trial will be an inspiration for other judges, other juries, both in the North and the South, for absolute and impartial treatment of all offenders.

TWO BURNED TO DEATH.
OKLAHOMA OKLAOKLAHOMAN
JANUARY 24, 1922

Two negroes were found dead in the ruins of their burned home near Packingtown, late Sunday night. One was an employe of a packing plant. The other was his wife. It is stated that the man had been threatened and that he had felt it necessary to dress as a woman when he went to work, in order to obtain greater assurance of freedom from violence. When his body was found after the fire, it appeared that the head had suffered a hard blow and this, connected with the fact that he had been threatened, has resulted in the theory that he and his wife were murdered.

The case deserves—and will no doubt receive—the careful attention of the county attorney and the sheriff. No stone should be left unturned in the effort to discover whether or not the two negroes were murdered and to arrest and punish any who may be guilty of having killed them.

South Carolina.

1026

Lynchings — 1922

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

ANDERSON S C MAIL
AUGUST 24, 1922

SUES McCORMICK COUNTY FOR LYNCHING OF HER HUSBAND

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

McCormick, S. C., Aug. 23.—Janie Bell Quarles, widow of Herbert Quarles, a negro who was lynched following an alleged attack by him upon a white woman in this county last June, has brought suit against McCormick county for $2,000.

N. Y. C. POST
AUGUST 24, 1922

Lynched Negro's Widow Sues County for $2,000

McCormick, S. C., August 24.—Janie Bell Quarles, widow of Herbert Quarles, a negro who was lynched after his alleged attack upon a white woman in this county last June, has brought suit against McCormick County for $2,000.

SUES COUNTY FOR LYNCHING

New York Times

South Carolina Negro's Widow Asks $7,500 Damages! 11-27-28

LEXINGTON, S. C., Nov. 28.—Suit has been entered against Lexington County for $7,500 damages as the result of the lynching of Will Allen, a negro, near here, in August, 1921, it became known today.

The action is brought by Mary Allen, his widow, as administratrix of his estate. Allen was shot to death after being taken from officers who had captured him following his shooting of Noah Frick, a white man.

Lynchings - 1922. Tennessee

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

1027

FOUR ARRESTED ON CHARGE OF ATTEMPT TO LYNCH WORKER

Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press)

NASHVILLE, TENN., July 19.—Four men are under arrest and five others are being sought in connection with an attempt to hang J. F. Brittain, an employe of the Radnor shops of the Louisville and Nashville railroad near here Tuesday night. 7-20-22

According to Brittain he was captured by nine men as he was leaving work Tuesday and was told by his captors that they intended to hang him. A rope was carried along for that purpose, he said. After being forced to accompany the men for a short distance he broke away and succeeded in making his escape, coming into Nashville, where he reported the matter to the sheriff. Working quietly the officers early tonight arrested four men, named by Brittain as being his assailants, on charges of assault with intent to commit murder, threatening to hang and disturbing the peace. They were later released on bond.

Lynchings — 1922

Texas.

1029

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

MOB VIOLENCE RAPPED.

Texas Judge Condemns Leniency to Mob Members.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn
2/14/22

WACO, Texas, Jan. 3.—District Judge R. I. Munro, in empanelling a grand jury for the term here today, declared the darkest spot on the good name of "our state is that mob violence seems to be an established and protected institution." Members of a mob," he said, "are above the law and immune from punishment."

The court charged the jurors to investigate the lynching of Curley Hackey, a white man charged with attacking a young girl, who was taken from the city jail Dec. 13 and hanged. He urged the jury to do its duty.

N Y C TIMES
FEBRUARY 14, 1922

ACT ON TEXAS LYNCHINGS.

Three Are Arrested in Forth Worth —Inquiry Ordered in Texarkana.

TEXARKANA, Texas, Feb. 13.—The Bowie County Grand Jury today set Feb. 20 for an investigation into the lynching of P. Norman, negro, shot to death by four men Saturday night. The lynching came as a climax to four days of activities by hooded men, during which period, in addition to the lynching, five white men were flogged, one white man seized and warned and one negro notified in a note signed K. K. K. to leave the city as a "big clean-up was in progress."

Norman, who was being escorted from Ashdown, Ark., where he was arrested on minor charges, was believed by police to have been taken for a negro wanted for the murder of an aged grocer.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Feb. 13.—After sixty days' investigation, three men are under arrest here today as a result of the lynching of Fred Rouse, negro packing house strikebreaker. The police say they know the names of twenty-three members of the lynching party. No more arrests, however, are expected for a few days, they added.

Two of the men in custody are policemen of Niles City, the suburb in which the packing houses are located. The third is a switchman.

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New York Times
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THREE HELD IN LYNCHING.

Two Policemen and Switchmen Jailed For Negroe's Death.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn
2/14/22

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LYNCHING CASE UP.

Grand Jury Meets Today to Probe Mob Activities.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn
2/14/22

TEXARKANA, Texas, Feb. 13.—Investigation of the lynching Saturday night of the negro, Norman, who was said to have been taken by masked men from the custody of Deputy Sheriff Jordan and his body riddled with bullets is scheduled to be taken up tomorrow morning when the Bowie County grand jury reconvenes at New Boston.

Judge Turner has declared he will insist that the grand jury not only investigate the lynching of the negro, but conduct a rigid investigation into the activities of the masked men who have taken several citizens from the city during the past 10 days and flogged them severely.

Last night Deputy Sheriff Jordan reported that his home on the Eylau Road, near the outskirts of the city, was attacked by men in automobiles with the lights out. The deputy said there were three cars filled with men in the alleged assault.

CHAMBER DENOUNCES LYNCHING OF NEGRO

Commercial Appeal
2/21/22

Texarkana Body Offers $250 Reward Also.

Memphis Tenn

TEXARKANA, Ark., Feb. 20.—At a meeting of the board of directors of the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce resolutions strongly denouncing the lynching of P. Norman, negro, on the night of Feb. 1, were adopted. The resolutions also "call upon the proper legal authorities of Bowie County to make a searching investigation to the end that the guilty parties may be apprehended and punished."

It also was announced that the Chamber of Commerce would pay a reward of $250 for the arrest and conviction "of the party or parties" guilty of the murder. The local Ku Klux Klan had previously offered a reward of $100, and this has been supplemented by an offer of $150 by Sheriff G. A. Richardson, making a total of $500. It is expected the governor of Texas will offer an additional reward, as the resolutions adopted by the Chamber of Commerce request that he do so.

According to Deputy Sheriff Will Jordan, Norman was taken from him by four masked men about 10 o'clock at night near Spring Lake Park, two miles north of town. The officer was bringing the negro here from Ashdown on a misdemeanor warrant, traveling by automobile. Four hours later the body of the negro, riddled with bullets, was found on another road about three miles from Spring Lake Park.

The Bowie County grand jury will reconvene Tuesday, when Judge P. A. Turner will deliver a special charge urging a searching investigation of the lynching of Norman and also the several whippings during the last few weeks by masked men at Texarkana and at Dekalb, in the west end of the county.

PROBE OF LYNCHING BEGINS AT TEXARKANA

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn
2/23/22

Members of Mob Visit Newspapers and Defy Arrest.

TEXARKANA, Texas, Feb. 22.—Grand jury investigation of the lynching of the negro, P. Norman, and into the activities of the masked men who have taken several citizens from the city and administered severe floggings to them was begun today in the district court of Bowie County, following a special charge to the jury by Judge Turner, who declared that the majesty of the law cannot exist in the same community with the Ku Klux Klan and similar oath-bound secret organizations.

The judge admitted the probability of the Ku Klux Klan not having had anything to do with the lynching of the negro or the floggings of the white men, but he stressed the point that organization gets the credit for such crimes. The grand jury had summoned a large number of witnesses but no intimation was given today as to whether or not the officers will be asked to testify in the investigation. Efforts to ascertain a list of witnesses summoned proved futile.

Four heavily armed and masked men last night visited the two local newspaper offices and boldly announced the fact that they were the ones who lynched the negro, and defied the editors and the officers in general to find them. They declared they were citizens of the city and expected to remain here. While making these declarations the men kept every one in the newspaper office covered with their revolvers and permitted none to come or go during their visit. They were not in automobiles and disappeared into the darkness of a side street after their visit to the last newspaper office.

SET INVESTIGATION DATE.

Feb. 20 Fixed For Clearing Up Lynching of Negro.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn
2/14/22

TEXARKANA, Ark., Feb. 13.—The Bowie County grand jury today set Feb. 20 as the date for an investigation into the lynching of P. Norman, negro, shot to death by four men Saturday night, which came as a climax to four days' activities by hooded men, during which, in addition to the lynching, five white men were flagged, one white man seized and warned and one negro notified in a note to leave the city as a "clean up was in progres." Norman, who was being escorted here from Ashdown, Ark., where he was arrested on minor charges, was believed by police to have been mistaken for a negro wanted for the murder of an aged grocer, and shot to death.

John Atkinson and Buster Langford were seized in an automobile containing some liquor and flogged and turned over to officers.

J. O. Booker, insurance agent, was seized on the streets and received his semond flogging in six weeks. The mob charged him with cruelty to his sick wife.

Charles Baker was seized on the streets and warned to behave himself.

Samuel Kelly was seized and flogged and charged with intimacy with another's wife, and later led blindfolded into the office of a morning newspaper and told to tell the city editor "why."

Lee Henderson, a railroad man, was taken from his home, flogged and also led blindfolded to the city. He was charged with wife beating.

John Norton, negro, reported to the police he found a note tacked on his gate post warning him to leave the city, as a clean up was in progress.

$800 Reward for Arrest Of Slayers of Negro

Commercial Appeal
2/26/22

TEXARKANA, Feb. 25.—A total of $800 in rewards for the arrest and conviction of the murderer or murderers of P. Norman, negro, who was reported as having been taken from Deputy Sheriff Will Jordan and shot to death by a mob of four masked men on the night of Feb. 11, is now outstanding. The latest contribution to the reward fund was by an anonymous correspondent, who sent $100 to the Rotary Club, accompanied by a letter of strong denunciation of the outrage. It is expected that the governor of Texas will offer an additional reward of $100 or $200.

Ugly and persistent rumors and speculations have prevailed since the killing and are still in circulation. And these speculations are not silenced, but rather accentuated by the appearance of the four masked men at a local newspaper office last night, who left a note saying, "We are the four men who took the negro away from Jordan." Some citizens are said to regard this latest move as a "horse play," whose object and purpose was to mislead the public.

While there is much praise expressed over the special charge of Judge P. A. Turner to the Bowie County grand jury at Boston yesterday concerning the alleged outrages by masked men, very little hope is felt that the guilty parties will be discovered and brought to justice through the efforts of the grand jury.

DEPUTY IS INDICTED FOR NEGRO "LYNCHING"

Commercial Appeal

Only One Other Man Involved, Accused "Masked Men."

2/26/22
Memphis Tenn.

TEXARKANA, Ark., Feb. 25.—Deputy Sheriff T. W. (Will) Jordan of the Texas side of town wan arrested this afternoon on a warrant based on a grand jury indictment charging him with the murder of P. Norman, the negro who was reported to have been taken from Jordan while a prisoner on the night of Feb. 11, and lynched by four masked men.

Norman was being brought here on a misdemeanor warrant by Jordan from Ashdown, 20 miles north of here. Ugly rumors have been in circulation ever since the alleged lynching, and Jordan's indictment by the grand jury was not unexpected. Jordan was granted bail in the sum of $3,000 by Judge Turner, following his arrest. It is known that another Texarkana man was also indicted in connection with the murder. He is out of the city, but it is expected he will be arrested some time tonight. No others are involved.

Bowie County Deputy Sheriff Charged With Killing His Prisoner

Houston Tex Post
2/26/22

Associated Press Report.

TEXARKANA, Texas, Feb. 25.—Deputy Sheriff W. T. Jordan was arrested Saturday following his indictment for murder by the Bowie county grand jury in connection with the killing of P. Norman, negro, who was found shot to death two and one-half miles from Texarkana early on the morning of February 12.

Jordan voluntarily surrendered when he heard that a warrant for his arrest had been issued. He later was released under $3000 bond.

On February 11 Jordan had gone to Ashdown, Little River county, Arkansas, to bring Norman to Texarkana. That night Jordan reported to Sheriff G. A. Richardson and District Attorney C. A. Wheeler that masked men had intercepted him near Spring Lake park and taken the negro from him. Search for the alleged masked men and their prisoner was begun immediately, but was abandoned at midnight. Early the next morning Norman's body, containing four bullet wounds, was found on a country road.

SAN ANTONIO TEX EXPRESS
NOVEMBER 26, 1922

Georgia Sickens of Lynching

Tha there has been a surprising increase of anti-lynching sentiment in Georgia recently and a growing determination on the part of Georgia people that the sanctity of the law must be upheld, was clearly indicated in reports made to the State Committee on Race Relations in its recent semi-annual meeting in this city. It was pointed out that during the present year twenty-two indictments have been returned against alleged lynchers and four convictions secured, carrying penitentiary sentences. Fifteen of these cases are still to be tried, most of them on the charge of murder, besides a number of damage suits growing out of injuries and losses inflicted by mobs. In one lynching case, both the deputy sheriff and the chief of police are under indictment. The significance of these facts was emphasized by the statement that in the thirty-seven years ending with 1921 there had been 430 lynchings in Georgia, and that record of only one indictment in all that time had been found. The State and county race relations committees have been active in a number of recent cases, conducting investigations, securing evidence and otherwise supporting local officials in their efforts to vindicate the law. The need of an effective anti-lynching law in the State was stressed, and the responsibility for drafting and getting such a bill before the next Legislature was delegated to a committee of eminent jurists headed by Judge Samuel B. Adams of Savannah.—Commission on Interracial Co-operation (Atlanta).

Lynchings — 1922.

Legal Punishment of Lynchers.

West Virginia.

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RE-TRIAL OF MAN ONCE DOOMED, IS HELD IN W. VA.

Harry Lattimer, Was Near Victim Of Judicial Lynching Avers Judge

Wayne, W. Va., May 25.—Harry Lattimer, "'man of destiny' and principal figure in one of the most unique and unusual cases in the history of West Virginia, the man who was arrested, indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to hang in less than 24 hours, was sentenced Monday to serve 20 years i nthe state penitentiary at Moundsville by Judge Robert Bland.

The sentence followed Lattimer's conviction in the Wayne county circuit court of attacking a 7-year-old girl at Williamsson last September.

Case Unusual

The details surrounding the case present one of the most complex situations which any county has ever been forced to deal with.

On September 6, last Lattimer was arrested on the charge of rape committed against a seven-year-old girl. The same day he was arrested, and within les than 24 hours had been indicted, tried, convicted, sentenced to be hanged, and was on his way to the state penitentiary, according to the records of the case.

The case was appealed on the basis that it was utterly impossible to give a man a fair trial and impartial within less than a day. Judge Frank Lively, who heard the plea for a new trial, and immediately granted same, voiced his opinion of the gross miscarriage of justice in no uncertain terms.

A "Judicial Lynching"

His speech denouncing the hasty action of the court, will go down in court records as a masterly denunciation of the "mob spirit which convicts a man without giving him the "reasonable doubt," spoke Judge Lively in handing down his order for a new trial, and had its effect upon the court and jury. The defendent may be guilty; that does not concern us. But he is entitled to a fair and impartial trial, to the calm, deliberate, and uninfluenced judgment of his peers. Orderly and constituted governments demand such trials. It is a safeguard in which all members of society are interested and which should be jealously upheld and guarded. A judicial lynching is a graver and more startling crime than a lynching by an irresponsible rabble. It undermines the foundation of orderly government.

Lynchings—1922
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All Of The Republican Leaders Say They Favored The Dyer Bill

St. Louis Argus—St. Louis, Mo.
11-24-22

Joseph C. Manning, Former Alabama Law-Maker, Gives Views On Delayed Legislation Which Is In The Hands Of National Congress. Why Was The Bill Not Passed? This Question Still Has Its Meanings.

NEW YORK, Nov. 22. (Special)—All the Republican leaders of the Harding administration, since the coming into control of the Harding administration, have said that they favor the Dyer Anti Lynching Bill.

President Harding said he favored it.

Vice-President Coolidge said he favored it.

Speaker of the House, Gillet, said he favored it.

Senator Lodge, leader of the Republican Senate, said he favored it.

Senator Frelinghuysen, New Jersey Senator, said he favored it.

New York's Senators, Calder and Wadsworth, said they favored it.

France, Curtis, Watson all of the Republican Senators close up and high up in the Harding administration, say they favor the Dyer Bill.

John T. Adams, Chairman of the Republican National Committtee, said he favored it.

Senator McCormick, Chairman of the Republican Senate Campaign Committee, said he favored it.

Congressman Fess, who was Chairman of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee until nominated for United States Senator in Ohio said that he favored the Dyer Bill

Yet, with all this powerful political array of influence, the Dyer Bill failed to pass in the Senate. It was simply favored to death. It was as unanimously favored as it was unanimously shelved.

Multi-millionaire Senator T. Coleman du Pont said he favored it too.

These big and these powerful Republicans perform in those things that they want done. They did not perform with reference to the Dyer Bill. It slept in Senate Committee until it was dug up and dug out to make votes. It did not even get a serious discussion in the Senate, and politics was played with it only on the day before adjournment.

In the fact of this, to the teeth of these facts, Colored voters are being told to vote for "our friends who favor the Dyer Bill:" and are being told thus by colored people who are intelligent enough to know better.

The Dyer Bill passed the House solely as a vote-maker and with no serious intention of it becoming a law. Congressman Martin B. Madden is influential enough to become Chairman of the powerful Committee on Appropriations of the House and get a relative appointed Second Assistant Postmaster General. He is in the Harding administration inner circle. Colored people call him "one of our friends." He got other big things for himself, but he failed to function his powerful influence for his Colored district in getting the Harding administration leaders to pass the Dyer Bill in the Senate.

Congressman Fess, of Ohio could become Chairman of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, and he could swing the Republican nomination for Senator in Ohio, but he could not swing the Harding administration into passing the Dyer Bill. Fess could get what he wanted for his own advancement, but he could not advance the Dyer Bill to passage. Fess is also referred to by Colored people who ought to know better, as "one of our friends who favor the Dyer Bill."

It will pass the next time they say.

The short session of Congress will be given to the supply bills, to appropriation necessary to keep the Government functioning. President Harding is also going to press his Ship Subsidiary legislative program at the short session of Congress. The Dyer Bill will not have a look-in. Harding is not going to disturb the social and political atmosphere of Washington with the Dyer Bill when he has what he considers "more important" legislation to press for passage. There will be not time for the consideration of the Dyer Bill. Those who say the Dyer Bill is going to pass next time are saying to hold their Colored vote. They are pla poli-

tics.

More than a year before the last Republican National Convention Senator George H Moses introduced a Senate Resolution that had reference to reducing of Southern representation in Congress. Senator Moses soon appeared on the political scene as trying to get Colored delegates in the South favorable to General Woods nomination for President. Since then no one has heard from Senator Moses and his particular Senate resolution.

Reduction of Southern representation in Congress was long used at a Republican political game to hold the Colored vote. It was passed under the name of the Crumpacker Bill. That scheme died away and now the Dyer Bill is taken up as "good politics" with which to hold the Colored vote.

Crumpacker Bill and Dyer Bill are political brothers of the same Republican political flimflam family.

JOSEPH C. MANNING,
Herald Square Hotel,
New York City.

PAT HARRISON, SENATOR FROM MISSISSIPPI HURLS INSULT AT SOUTHERN Y. W. C. A. GIRL

Pittsburg American
Pittsburg, Pa.

Woman Protesting His Attitude on Dyer Bill is Brow Beaten By Harrison—Says He Fights for White Civilization.

12-8-22

(Special to The Pittsburgh American)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—Senator Pat Harrison, of Mississippi, has scored one more victory for white womanhood and white civilization in the South. In the heat of the battle against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, Mr. Harrison received the following telegram from Miss Fannie Belle Outler, Chairman of the Student Young Women's Christian Association in ten of the Southern states:

"As chairman of the 15,000 members of the Student Young Women's Christian Association in 10 southern states, I wish to voice our movement's opinion as one of emphatic protest against your attitude on the Dyer-Anti-Lynching bill."

Senator Harrison then made the following reply to Miss Outler:

"Your telegram pruporting to voice a protest in the name of 15,000 members of the tudent Young Women's Christian A sociation in 0 southern states agains my atitude n the Dyer anti-lynching bill just received. Will greatly appreciate it if you will furnish me names of members in Mississippi, if any, whose views you are authorized to express. Such a protest coming fro y part of the white women of the south is inconceivable to those of us who are here battling in what we conceive to be the greatest crisis in the history of our section since the infamous Lodge force bill was killed. If this unconstitutional and unjustifiable legislative monstrosity, which is aimed at the south, should become the law, constitutional government would be at an end and our white civilization be threatened."

After receiving such a rejoinder from Harrison and its subsequent publication in the southern papers, Miss Outler saw fit to retract her criticism of the Mississippi senator. She then wired Harrison as folflows:

"Please disregard entirely wording of my telegram to you of Nov. 29, in regard to filibuster in Dyer anti-lynching bill. Since sending you the telegram my attention has been called to the fact that the idea I and the young women I represent wished to convey was not made clear. The telegram as worded badly distorted our attitude on the question. It was not our idea to attack you or other southern senators for fighting for the honor of the south. The one and only purpose of the young women I represent is that legislation shall be enacted or enforced to make further lynchings impossible, but not legislation that will trample on states rights. The stand you and other southern senators have taken on this question is understood."

It is said that southern sentiment was so thoroughly aroused against Miss Outler that it was necessary to take the steps that she did in order to keep down a wave of hostile feeling that was rising against her.

PROVIDENCE R I JOURNAL
OCTOBER 1, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING CRUSADERS WILL SEEK MEMBERS HERE

Organization Seeks Dyer Bill Passage in Congress.

A campaign to obtain women as members of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders will be opened in Providence this morning with a "sunrise prayer meeting" at the Pond Street Baptist Church. At the same time similar meetings in every large city and many smaller communities of the country will be held.

The campaign will continue throughout the months of October, November and December, at the end of which time it is the society's aim to have at least 1,000,000 women of all races and creeds enrolled as members and active workers in favor of making the Dyer anti-lynching bill, now in Congress, a law.

The national organizer of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders is Miss Mary E. Jackson of 351 Willard avenue, Providence, and the State director for Rhode Island is Miss Amey Harry. Officers of the local branch of the society are: Mrs. Amelia Wheeler, President; Mrs. Fred W. Smith, secretary, and Miss Fanny Rodman, treasurer.

Defeat of Layton Great Victory For Anti-Lynching Crusaders

Washington Advocate

Parker, of New Jersey, Goes Down to Defeat at Hands of Crusaders of New Jersey—Miss Alice Robertson, of Oklahoma, Canned by Colored Vote

Wilmington Advocate
11-11-22
Wilmington, Del.

The work of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders, of Delaware, in defeating Congressman Layton, of Delaware, who voted against the Dyer Bill is highly commended by all who were interested in this manifestation of race pride on the part of our women. From the beginning, August 22, when the State Convention at Dover nominated Dr. Layton against the expressed wishes of the colored voters of the state, and cooly steam-rollered out of the state committee those men who had voiced their protest, until the polls closed, the Crusaders did not relax their energies and vigilance. The first gun fired in the campaign was on Labor Day, the last official act of the Crusaders was the distribution on Election Day of 10,000 cards. These were horrible, but effective. A line drawing of a man hanging by the neck over a fire, which was already beginning to curl about his feet, The crude lettering said, "This is what Caleb Layton believes in! He voted to continue lynching and burning. If you vote for him you vote to lynch your brothers and sisters! VOTE AGAINST CALEB LAYTON! Stand by your race!"

The women, aided by the Anti-Layton League, began on Saturday evening distributing these cards over the state. The 3.45 train on the Delaware Road on Saturday afternoon was met at verious stations and the cards handed out in packages by the State Director of the Crusaders. On Monday afternoon, the president of the Anti-Layton League drove down the state, leaving cards in bundles. On Tuesday morning, volunteer workers literally papered the voting districts with the literature of the Crusaders and the League, and on Tuesday morning, a prominent minister, Rev. J. D. Atkins, volunteered his services to go through rural New Castle with the cards.

The Crusaders held nearly fifty meetings, thirty-eight of which were addressed by the State Director of Delaware. They brought to Delaware such national speakers as James Weldon Johnson, William Pickens, Walter F. White, Ferdinand Q. Morton. Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, Mrs. Helen Curtis, Robert W. Begnall and Melvin W. Chisum. They distributed over 20,000 pieces of literature, and sold 1,400 buttons in the two months of active campaigning. And all because they wanted to see the colored men and women of Delaware free themselves from political superstition, and place race above party. The Key Women of Wilmington, Bridgeville, Millsboro, Dover, and Marshallton, particularly, as well as other places, were particularly active and helping. All women worked well, but in these places, Mrs. Gertrude Rose, Mrs. D. H. Hargis, Mrs. Sadie B. Waters, Mrs. Noah Harmon, Mrs. Cecie Parker Henry, Mrs. M. Cannon, Mrs. W. C. Jason, Mrs. J. B. Stubbs, Mrs. Letitia Rives, Mrs. Luella Lambert labored unceasingly night and day. And it must not be forgotten how the men of the Independent Citizens' League in Wilmington. Dr. H. C. Stevens and his aids co-operated with the women, and the work of the men down the state, such as George L. Waters, whose car was always ready to go the length and breadth of the state, if necessary, Dr. W. C. Jason, who never missed an occasion to attend a meeting and speak, Dr. W. M. Henry, who was tireless, J. B. Aiken—well, Kent and Sussex counties showed for the work they did.

Tte finest thing about the whole campaign against Layton has been the splendid service given by the men and women of our race, service that asked for and expected no reward; service that asked only to be of help in showing the manhood of our race. The women pointed the way to the men and the men showed their manhood and feality to principal.

The Crusaders in New Jersey concentrated their efforts on Wayne Parker, of infamous fame, who also voted against the Dyer Bill, and relegated him to the obscurity he deserves In Oklahoma. Congressman Alice Robertson, another one of those who voted "No" when the roll was called on the Dyer Bill(has been left at home. Congressman L. C. Dyer, of St. Louis, has been returned to Congress, by his grateful constituents.

The N. A. A. C. P., office in New York City sent a telegram of congratulation to the State Director of the Anti-Lynching Crusaders on the defeat of Dr. Layton.

Text and Pretext

BY M. ASHBY JONES, D.D.

Atlanta Constitution
12-10-22

THE LYNCHING OF THE DYER BILL

That is just what happened. The lynching bill was lynched—the force bill was destroyed by force. The Dyer bill died a violent death, and there have been no mourners among either the democrats or the republicans.

The whole proceedings ran true to form. A mob assembled in the senate chamber, and everybody knew it was forming, and knew just what they were going to do. The officers in charge of the proposed law made a slight pretense of defending their prisoner and then surrendered to the overwhelming numbers and force of a small minority. The prisoner was a great embarrassment, and the officers were truly delighted to have him forcibly taken from their charge and put to death.

This lynching bill is another act in a legislative farce. It is another expression of a type of political hypocrisy which trifles with serious social problems, and plays its petty partisanship with tragic situations. The republicans proposed the bill in order to win the negro votes in the northern and western states, and the democrats heroically and violently opposed the bill in order to win white votes in the southern states. But in the meantime negroes are put to death without any legal trial, and in many instances with indescribable barbarity.

Whether the Dyer bill was technically constitutional or not I am incompetent to judge. I am convinced, however, that whenever the time comes that a state government is either unable or unwilling to give to any group of citizens of the United States within its borders the right to a fair trial by jury, the federal government is then under the most solemn obligation to step in and protect these citizens in this most sacred of rights. But it is not easy to decide when and how this ought to be done.

The Heart of Democracy.

Democracy is more than a form of government. Other forms are far more efficient in coercing people into a regular and orderly social conduct. The German imperial system was, from this standpoint, the best example of political efficiency the world has ever seen. Democracy is a school which seeks to develop a disciplined self-control on the part of all the people. It aims at nothing less than teaching each local group the art of self-government. This can only be done in proportion as each man comes to feel some sense of responsibility for making and obeying the laws under which he lives. Here it seems to me is the philosophy of local self-government. The further removed the government, the less the sense of responsibility.

If this reasoning is correct an act like the Dyer bill does strike at the heart of local democracy. It is not a new criminal act. Lynching is already a crime under the law. It is an assumption by the federal government of a police control which at present belongs to the state. Its only justification would be that the state is unable or unwilling to perform that function.

The Dyer bill is dead, but the question which it raised is tremendously vital. Has democracy broken down in Georgia? Is this state unable or unwilling to grant the fundamental right of trial by jury to all of its citizens? It is true we are citizens of Georgia, but Georgia is a part of a great nation. We are first of all citizens of the United States, and the rest of the people of this nation have a right to demand that we answer that question distinctly and without evasion.

The New Challenge.

It is high time that the people of Georgia should awaken to the seriousness of this issue. They should come to understand that a comparatively small section, and a very small minority of the people of this state, is making the name of this old commonwealth "a hissing and a by-word" throughout the land, and putting in jeopardy the very existence of our democracy.

Personally, I am glad the Dyer bill failed, though I wish it could have been killed by the orderly will of a majority, instead of by the disorderly force of a minority. Even if it had been possible, I should be horribly humiliated to see my beloved south forced by federal authority to do that which we know to be right. It would rob us of our democracy, and steal from us the precious privilege of voluntarily rendering justice to the weak.

Now that the threat is removed, in obedience to the best traditions of southern chivalry, let us proclaim in some adequate police legislation that the anarchy of lynching shall no longer menace our democracy, and the humblest man in Georgia shall live under the protection of our justice.

THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Christian Recorder
Philadelphia, Pa.
12-7-22

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is having trouble to pass Congress. The chances are that before this reaches the public the Republicans will have agreed that the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill be shelved, and that will mean its final defeat so far as this Congress is concerned. This is a shame, but we should keep at it until we have succeeded in getting some protective measure against lynching in this country. This ought not be merely a fight by the colored people, but by all decent elements of our citizens for protection of the law. Perhaps there is no matter in which the law is broken down more than it has been in regard to lynching.

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ALL FAVOR DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

New York Amsterdam News N. Y.

The overwhelming vote that was cast against the Republican ticket in the election last Tuesday in the colored strongholds in New York City such as Harlem, Columbus Hill, and in other sections of the country was due more to a lack of faith in the Republican party than anything else. Take the Dyer Anti-Lynching for example. All Republican leaders since the coming into control of the Harding administration said they favored it, but all failed to function to pass it. President Harding said he favored it, Vice President Coolidge said he favored it, Senator Lodge leader of the Republican Senate said he favored it, Speaker of the House Gillette said he favored it, Senator Frelinghuysen of New Jersey said he favored it. The New York's Senators, Calder and Wadsworth, said they favored it. 11-18-22

France, Curtis, Watson, all of the Republican Senators close up and high up in the Harding administration, said they favored the Dyer bill.

John T. Adams, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, said he favored it.

Senator McCormick, Chairman of the Republican Campaign Committee, said he favored it.

Congressman Fess, who was Chairman of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee until nominated for United States Senator in Ohio, said that he favored the Dyer Bill. Yet, with all this powerful political array of influence, the Dyer Bill failed to pass the Senate.

Multi-millionaire Senator T. Coleman du Pont said he favored it, too.

These big and these powerful Republicans perform in those things that they want done. They did not perform with reference to the Dyer Bill. It slept in Senate Committee until it was dug up and dug out to make votes. It did not get even serious discussion in the Senate, and politics was played with it only on the day before adjournment.

What will be done in this regard at the Senate's special session Nov. 20? We shall see.

Perry Howard Does His Bit to Defeat Anti-Lynching Bill

Atlanta Independent 12-14-22

Astounding revelation of the activity of Perry W. Howard in an effort to defeat the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was made today at the office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which made public the text of a letter written by Mr. Howard to Senator T. Coleman DePont, of Delaware. This letter was dated November 23, 1922, just three days after the opening of the special session and at the time when every effort was being made to have the bill brought up and pushed. In this letter, Mr. Howard declares he has "blood in his eyes" for the N. A. A. C. P., which he calls a "Negro Democratic Organization" and insists that no legislation ought to be enacted by reason of the N. A. A. C. P., or its sympathizers.

Mr. Howard's letter is in part as follows:

I received your letter of Nov. 22 upon my return from the West, where I have been almost the entire time since the close of the campaign.

I confess to you that I have blood in my eyes for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and others who have used them with sinister designs to defeat some of the best friends that we have in particular and the Nation in general.

The purpose of this letter is to call attention of you and other outstanding statesmen to the fact that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is purely a Negro Democratic organization and has always been found on the side of the Democrats in the final analysis. This organization was used by Bob Nelson and others, and you owe your defeat to no other agency. I corrected the evil in Wilmington and if I could have gone into the Dover neighborhood on the following Monday, I could have saved the day, but I had an engagement to fill for Senator Frelinghuysen and you know it was impossible for me to do so.

Now, I may call attention to the fact that whatever legislation or whatever else is done for the Colored people of this country ought certainly to be done and done promptly, but I insist that none of it ought to be done through or by reason of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People or any of its sympathizers.

I therefore think that it should be the policy of the leaders of the party like you to absolutely ignore and give the back of your hand to such men as Nelson, James Weldon Johnson, W. E. B. DuBois, Robert L. Vann, of Pittsburg, and others of their ilk. There should be no quarters; and while treating every Colored man with fairness and looking well to the interest of our group, these political bolshevists should be annihilated as the basest of ingrates.

(Signed) PERRY W. HOWARD.

In Mr. Howard's letter to Senator DuPont, it was stated that copies were being sent to Senators Frelinghuysen, McCormick, Watson and Moses, also to Attorney General Daugherty, who it is to be presumed would be interested in the charge by Mr. Howard that Messrs. Nelson, DuBois, James Weldon Johnson and Vann are "political bolshevists." Copies of Mr. Howard's letter were furthermore sent to Charles Adams, chairman of the Republican National Committee, and were circulated among prominent Republican Senators.

Mr. Howard's reference to his willingness to "save the day" in the Dover neighborhood will interest those Colored readers who recall that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was instrumental in defeating Dr. Caleb R. Layton, Delaware Republican representative, on the sole ground that he misrepresented his constituents by voting against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill in the House of Representatives.

The defeat of Dr. Layton, largely through the enthusiastic and able work of Mrs. Alice Dunbar Nelson, was regarded among Colored people as well as among white politicians as one of the most convincing demonstrations of solidarity and power ever evinced by colored voters in America. Delaware became an object lesson to the Republican party showing the strong feeling among Colored voters about the Dyer bill. It is presumably against this proud achievement of Colored voters, accomplished on the sole issue of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, that Mr. Perry Howard could have "saved the day."

Mr. Howard was appointed to an office in the Department of Justice by President Harding. Mr. Howard is also a close personal friend of Senator Pat Harrison, of Mississippi. It was Senator Harrison who helped defeat the Liberian Loan Bill by stating that he had "information" that certain Colored men were to benefit heavily financially by the passage of this legislation.

In the same tenor as Mr. Perry Howard's letter was a paragraph widely circulated among the Colored press asserting that lobbying by the N. A. A. C. P. would hinder enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill because Republican leaders regarded the Association as a "Democratic ally with Socialistic tendencies."

WELDON JOHNSON AT WASHINGTON

St. Louis Mo.

Secretary N. A. A. C. P. Will See The Final Battle For Victory Or Death Of The Anti-Lynch Bill As Congress Meets In Extra Session.

St. Louis, Mo, 11-24-22

HON MOORFIELD STORY SAYS, "WE MUST PUSH."

New York, Nov. 21st.—As the Senate convenes on November 20, in the special session of Congress called by President Harding, the Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, James Weldon Johnson, is in Washington to fight the final battle in behalf of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. Mr. Johnson has been at the National Capital throughout the campaign in behalf of the Dyer Bill, and during debate on the fiddler of the House of Representatives before its passage there, was in constant conference with Republican House leaders. He intends to remain in Washington until the bill is entirely disposed of.

Mr. Johnson anounced before his departure from New York for Washington, that he would keep colored people informed of the progress of the bill, and made public a letter from Moorfield Storey, ex-president of the American Bar Association and now President of the N. A. A. C. P., which says in part:

"I want to congratulate you on the result of the campaign. The defeat of Dr. Layton and Mr. Parker is a very important contribution to our cause, for it will show that where the colored forces are united they can defeat their enemies.

"I do not know what we may expect in Washington, but we must push, and with the presidential election before them, and their present low estate, I think the Republicans may feel that thy cannot afford to alienate so large a body of voters of this country. That certainly is the idea which we must bring home."

During the Senate fight on the Dyer Bill, special bulletins will be telegraphed the New York office of the N. A. A. C. P., by Mr. Johnson and sent out as occasion warrants.

HARDING UKASE ASKS LYNCH BILL ADOPTION

Commercial Appeal 12-2-22

Telegram From Negroes Spurs President to Talk.

FILIBUSTER IS UNSHAKEN

Harrison, Answering Y. W. C. A.'s Alleged Protest, Declares It Inconceivable Southern White Women Could Favor Dyer Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Harding is determined that Republican members of Congress shall not be the only politicians to win negro votes by espousing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, a measure which Republicans privately admit is unconstitutional and might incite, rather than prevent lynchings. He let it be known today, through White House channels that he personally favors the bill. He would not comment, however, on the Democratic filibuster against it.

The executive, it was said, "feels that lynching is a very sore spot on our boast of civilization."

Telegram From Negroes.

The Harding ukase was simultaneous with announcement that James W. Johnson, secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, had sent a telegram to the White House and to "12 Republican leaders in the Senate" uring them to "stand by the anti-lynching bill."

The Democratic senators of the south will continue their filibuster tomorrow and nothing will be done in the Senate until the Republicans drop the "force" bill. Today's session adjourned out of respect to Representative Mann, who died last night.

Senator Harrison of Mississippi doubts the claims made by Fannie Belle Outler of Macon, Ga., that 15,000 young women students in the south are protesting against his attitude on the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Senator Harrison received the following telegram today from Miss Outler:

"As chairman of the 15,000 members of the Student Young Women's Christian Association in 10 southern states, I wish to voice our movement's opinion as one of emphatic protest against your attitude on the Dyer anti-lynching bill."

Harrison's Reply.

Senator Harrison replied as follows:

"Your telegram purporting to voice a protest in the name of 15,000 members of the Student Young Women's Christian Association in 10 southern states against my attitude on the Dyer anti-lynching bill just received. Will greatly appreciate it if you will furnish me names of members in Mississippi, if any, whose views you are authorized to express. Such a protest coming from any part of the white women of the south is inconceivable to those of us who are here battling in what we conceive to be the greatest crisis in the history of our section since the infamous Lodge force bill was killed. If this unconstitutional and unjustifiable legislative monstrosity, which is aimed at the south, should become the law, constitutional government would be at an end and our white civilization be threatened."

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON TELLS OF REPUBLICAN ABANDONMENT OF DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Nashville Banner

James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, on his return to New York from Washington, made the following statement on the abandonment of the Dyer Bill by the Republican Party:

The fight for the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was abandoned by the Republican majority on Monday, Dec. 4, in the last hours of the extra session of Congress. The Bill had been called up for consideration on Tuesday, Nov. 28th. It immediately became the object of a filibuster on the part of the Southern Democrats, which was the most naked and brutal exhibition of its kind ever made in the Senate. A filibuster is generally carried on under somes ort of disguise, but Senator Underwood of Alabama, the Democratic leader, stated plainly and bluntly that the purpose of the filibuster was to prevent any consideration whatsoever of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and that the Democratic side would not allow any government business whatever to be carried on until the Republicans agreed to abandon the Bill not only during the extra session but even during the short session. 12/29/22

The filibuster was carried on from Tuesday through Saturday, Dec. 2, during which time the Southern Democrats would not even allow the adoption of the record of the Senate's proceedings. Finally, on Saturday night a caucus of Republican Senators was held which was largely attended and the question of the abandonment of the Bill was discussed hotly for more than two hours. The attendance at the caucus dwindled until there were some twenty-two or twenty-three Senators left. A vote was then taken and the majority agreed to abandon the Bill. There were nine Senators who voted to keep up the fight until the 4th of March, if necessary. Among these was Senator Shortridge who has charge of the Bill and who led the fight on the floor.

Before the Republican caucus, the Secretary conferred with Senator Lodge, Curtis and Watson, the three men holding the fate of the Bill in their hands, urging them not to surrender on the terms laid down by the Democrtic filibusters. Those terms were that the Bill be not only dropped in the Special Session but dropped as well for the entire term of the Sixty-seventh Congress.

Immediately after the publication in the newspapers of the outcome of the caucus, the Secretary telegraphed to these three Senators inquiring if he had not received their promise that the Bill would not be abandoned on Senator Underwood's terms. Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, who was elected by the colored voters of his State on the sole issue of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, denied by letter ever having made such a promise to the Secretary. It was Senator Lodge who announced in the Senate, on the morning of Dec. 4th, the Republican Party's abject surrender.

The colored people will not be deceived by appearnces. They can see and they know the actual fight was made by the Southern Democrats against the Bill rather than by the Republicans in its behalf. The Southern Democrats roared like a lion nd the Republicans lay down like a scared 'possum. The efforts of Senator Shortridge were sincere and earnest, but outside of the support he received from Senator Willis, Senator New and Senator Page, not a Republican Senator opened his mouth in actual support. A few senators, including Senators Pepper and Reed of Pennsylvnia, McNary, Capper and Gooding, expressed their willingness to keep up the fight until the 4th of March if necessary, but the mass of Republican Senators displayed no particular interest in the Bill. Ii is this attitude that the colored people will especially resent, perhaps even more than the failure of the Bill to be passed. If the Republican senatorial leaders think the Negro yill be satisfied merely because they allowed the Southern Democrats to "put themselves on record" they are mistaken. The Republicans should also have put themselves on record. This they failed to do.

The unsuccessful fight to have the Dyer Bill enacted into law at this time is not however, without its fruits.

First of all, lynching as a national shame and the facts bout lynching have been put before the American people. In fact, lynching has been made not only a national but an international issue and such question cannot die until it is rightly settled once for all.

Second, the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill became the center of concerted mass action by colored people such as never before taken place in the United States. Colored voters defeated, on this issue alone, three men who voted against it in the House of Represenatives, one in Delaware, one in New Jersey, and one in Wisconsin. So doing Colored people have become conscious of their political power.

Third, Colored voters have gone a great step toward political emancipation from allegiance on historical grounds to any one party. The fate of the Dyer Bill, coming as a culminaion of a series of disappointments nation of a seri s of disappointments under the present administration, completely rids the Negro of the old idea that he must now, henceforth and forever vote the Republican ticket merely for historic reasons.

In conclusion, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored Peopleh as no intention of lessening its efforts to abolish lynching in the United States of America. Indeed, we have just begun to fight

(Signed)) James Weldon Johnson.

Nine Republican Representatives Against Dyer Bill Defeated

Washington Bulletin 11-25-22

Washington, D.C.

Of the 17 Republican congressmen who voted against the Dyer anti-lynching bill, only eight will be members of the 68th Congress—and all of them from rockribbed Republican districts, where the colored voters were unable to defeat their return.

In every district where the colored voters held the balance of power; namely, Delaware, Michigan, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia, and Wisconsin, the recalcitrant congressmen, who voted against the party measure, were voted into retirement.

In line with, if not upon the advice of, President Harding the colored voters "split" and exercised the right of suffrage in a most signal and effective manner on November 7.

Delaware, showed just what the Race can do when united. The campaign there was a battle royal to defeat Mr. Layton. He found that his vote against the Dyer bill was a millstone about his neck, and try as he did he could not displace it. Senator Dupont came to his aid but was dragged down with him.

No more striking example of the wrath of the colored voters can be found, than existed in Delaware on Tuesday last. With a voting strength of about 10,000 in the State, where the congressman is elected at large, Layton was defeated by 6,000, and Dupont, who forced his nomination, in convention, was on the short end by 600; the former losing to Boyce and the latter to Bayard.

Mr. Charles H. Coulbourne, of Wilmington, a prominent colored politician, for four years a member of the Republican State Committee, strongly advised as did others, against the renomination of Layton and because of this advice he was replaced on the committee by Dr. Conwell Banton.

Mr. Coulbourne's precinct, the 4th of the Second Ward responded as follows: For Senator, Bayard 5, Dupont 237; For Congress, Boyce 61, Layton 10; which shows that 227 of the Republicans of the precinct did not vote for Layton, 55 voted for Boyce and the rest scratched the Congressman altogether. The most significant fact being that the voting strength of the precinct is about 250—240 of whom are colored voters.

In campaigning to defeat all the Republican congressman who voted against the Dyer anti-lynching bill, The National Race Congress, The Committee on Public Affairs of the Inter-Fraternal Council, and the Dismittee of the North Eastern Federatrict of Columbia Anti-Lynching Comtion of Colored Women's Clubs all rendered valuable service.

TO REVIVE DYER BILL

Montgomery Advertiser

Association Announces Intention to Wage Fight

12-5-22

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People declared in a statement tonight commenting on the Dyer bill that it "has no intention of lessening its efforts to abolish lynching."

"The abandonment of the bill by the republican leaders in the senate," it said, "will have far-reaching effects upon the colored people of the whole country. Of prime importance will be the political effect upon negro voters in those northern states where they hold the balance of power, or vote in such numbers that they are a political factor."

Lynchings — 19th
Legislation

1052

Death of Anti-Lynching Bill

When Republican leaders abandoned the attempt to enact the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill into a law, the attention of the country was riveted upon the antiquated rules of the Senate which permit unlimited debate upon any question and allow a determined minority to block legislation. Afro-American, Baltimore, Md.

Since the Republican party is in power and has been for several years in the Senate, it will have to bear the responsibility for its antiquated rules. Every Republican voter will surely feel that the Republican Senators should have taken every necessary step to carry out the party pledges, even if a change of Senate rules were required.

12-8-22

Aside from this, the filibuster of the Southern Democratic Senators makes plain the unwillingness of the South to give the Negro full citizenship rights. Southern Senators admitted if the Dyer Bill became a law thereby enforcing the Fourth and Fifth Amendments to the Constitution, the next step would be an attempt to enforce the Fourteenth Amendment to the same Constitution under which Southern states must permit the Negro to vote or suffer their representation in Congress to be reduced.

The Constitution of the United States is a dead letter so far as the Negro citizen living in the South is concerned. Any attempt to enforce it is regarded as "a violation of states' rights." In fact reason and truth are so perverted in Dixie that it becomes UNCONSTITUTIONAL TO ENFORCE THE CONSTITUTION.

TELEGRAPH
NOVEMBER 4, 1922

The Anti-Lynching Bill Dead, but It Has Served Its Purpose.

There will be another effort to pass the Dyer anti lynching bill at this session of Congress. What's the use? Senator Lodge, leader of Republicans, will not ask this question to-day when he makes formal announcement of the party program. The work has not been quite "raw" enough to call for such an expression, but it has been "raw" enough. There is no use. The bill has accomplished its purpose. Not a dozen statesmen in Washington believed it would pass and not one of any legal training whatever believed that if it should pass it would be held constitutional by the Supreme Court of the United States.

It was buncombe. It was introduced as a sop to negroes of the North who have some influence in politics, and it was debated with a view solely to campaign literature. In the next canvass the so-called sponsors of the measure will be able to tell negro voters that the bill would have gone through if it had not been for the wicked Democrats. It may fool some of them. The record shows that negroes holding the franchise are easily fooled.

DETERMINATION OF REPUB SENATORS TO FORCE VOTE OF ANTI-LYNCHING LAW IS AGAIN FRUSTRATED BY MINORITY LEADERS

Montgomery Advertiser 11-30-22

Democratic Filibuster Most Wonderfully Working Machine Seen Since Time Morgan Talked Force Bill to Death, Political Observers Declare

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—Determination of senate republicans to wage "a finish fight" in behalf of the Dyer anti-lynching bill failed today to weaken democratic senators in their filibuster against the measure and the senate adjourned over Thanksgiving with no end to the filibuster in sight.

Appeals, arguments, criticisms and counter tactics were employed by the republicans in an endeavor to break through the democratic obstruction. All, however, went for naught and Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, who as the party leader, presided over the republican caucus yesterday at which a resolution was passed to force a senate session Thanksgiving day, if necessary, to break the filibuster, ended a five hour session with a motion to adjourn until Friday.

The adjournment found the senate with less accomplished in five hours today than in yesterday's four hour session at which the filibuster was inaugurated. The republicans yesterday succeeded in getting approved the journal of the previous day's proceedings, but today the reading of the Journal was barely completed and Senator Harrison, of Mississippi, at the end of the session, stood ready to present nearly a dozen amendments to the journal, if necessary, to continue the filibuster.

Senators on both the democratic and republican sides yesterday commented on the scientific way in which the democratic leaders conducted the filibuster. These senators after today's session frankly declared that "more and more the wonder grew," and Senator Curtis of Kansas, the republican whip, asserted on the floor that congress had seen no filibuster so complete since the famous Force bill was talked to death in 1891. Senator Willis, of Ohio, one of the strongest republican advocates of the anti-lynching bill, went even further in a speech late in the day and said "the parliamentary history of this country disclosed nothing to approach the situation which now exists in the senate."

The determination of the democrats to continue obstruction until the republicans agreed to lay aside the Dyer bill was announced on the floor and in private conversation. Their determination, however, was no stronger than that of those republicans in charge of the measure. This was declared by some tonight to point to a continuation of efforts on both sides until the extra session adjourns sine die Saturday night.

The democrats today as yesterday started their tactics of obstruction by forcing a quorum call immediately after the chaplain concluded his prayer. The republicans, through Senator Curtis, promptly countered with a piece of strategy worked out by "the best minds" on the majority side—a point of order that the democratic tactics were dilatory. This stirred the democrats to attack and brought speeches from Senator Underwood of Alabama the minority leader, and Harrison, denouncing the move as savoring of "strong arm methods," as "a reversal of the days of "Czar" Reed in the house," and a resort to "Cannonism." The point was lost sight of in the debate that followed and was not renewed.

THE MEXICAN ANTI-LYNCHING PROTEST

New York Age 11-25-22

1052

The cooperation which Mexico is unconsciously giving in the Negro's fight against lynching is very welcome. The Mexican Embassy at Washington last week made a protest to the American Government in which was alleged the indiscriminate killing of Mexican citizens in this country, especially in Texas and along the international border. This protest has moved Secretary of State Hughes to make an urgent request of Governor Neff of Texas to protect Mexican citizens in that State.

Here again we have an illustration of the absurd condition which the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill proposes to remedy—the fact that the Federal Government at Washington can call upon the Governor of a state to protect foreign citizens and cannot do so regarding citizens of the United States.

The Disclosures made by the Mexican Embassy as to the number of Mexicans lynched in this country are astounding. The Chargé d' Affairs stated that, according to information on file at the Embassy, between fifty and sixty Mexicans had met violent deaths in the United States within the last twelve months. This is astounding because the news dispatches have given no accounts of these lynchings. Yet, the statement of the Mexican official must be true. Indeed, he filed with our Department of State a list of twenty-two who had been killed—eleven in Texas and eleven in other states.

This protest from Mexico comes at a very opportune time, and we hope that it will have a favorable effect upon the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.

Perry W. Howard Replies to James Weldon Johnson

12/21/22
Atlanta Independent

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.—I have read with amazement the release from the N. A. A. C. P., under date of December 8, charging that I defeated the anti-lynching bill.

I want to denounce the perfidy of those responsible for this release for disjointing my letter and leaving out certain parts, which was intended to make it distasteful. No honorable man would do this; and I challenge them to publish the letter in its entirety.

First. I want to say that any statement or intimation that I in any wise, directly or indirectly, defeated or contributed to the defeat of the anti-lynching bill is a lie, and there is not a sane man in the country who believes this, including the man or men who released the article so charging.

Second. The reference to the Liberian loan is innuendo, and, therefore, unworthy of notice.

It is well known by the author of this release that for two years I have worked incessantly, together with other friends, to get an anti-lynching bill on the Federal statutes; and instead of appreciation and co-operation on the part of Mr. James Weldon Johnson, our efforts were resented by him because it was interfering with his one aim, and that is to exploit his importance and keep in the limelight. I have every reason to believe that he would prefer that the bill be not passed if it will in any wise dim the luster of his vanity or self-exploitation.

Our activities for the anti-lynching bill, or any other movement, have been consistently opposed by Mr. Johnson and Mr. DuBois with his "Crisis," which he has freely used to belittle and minify our activities in every way.

I cannot see what places upon Messrs. Johnson and DuBois the responsibility of passing the anti-lynching bill unless it be a popular card to fill the coffers of the N. A. A. C. P., and give them increased salaries: for they are the most luxuriously salaried gentlemen who are doing charity work, whom I know. I know of no colored man perhaps in the country who would not be glad or delighted to have their places, which require no sacrifice, but which, on the other hand, furnish every facility for ease and comfort—Mr. Johnson to sit in the gallery of the Senate and look on at the activities, prepared at any moment to step down one flight and indulge in the luxurious pastime of eating canvass back duck or quail on toast, which Mr. DuBois strokes his Chesterfeldian beard and incidentally takes his "Crisis" in hand and fires a desultory shot at a supposed enemy. Of course, their release will be published in "The Crisis," but no word in response will ever get on the pages of Mr DuBois's magazine.

I have no word of censure for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People per se and its earnest members who mean well and are doing their best; but I do object to these autocrats exploiting themselves at the expense of the association and seeking to belittle these who do not pay homage to them.

It has been presumed from the beginning that the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People was a non-political organization. But true to my political faith I can but resent the present leaders invariably lining up otherwise and misleading their followers into killing off some of the few friends we had in the Senate. I resent this with all my soul. I especially resent their action towards Senator du Pont, who was defeated through the activities of the N. A. A. C. P. and whose friendship for and fidelity to us have never been questioned, and in his stead they elected a Senator who already has voted with the Democrats on every roll call where any matter of interest to the Negro was at stake.

When the special session of Congress was convened there had been defeated Senators du Pont, Frelinghuysen, Townsend, Kellogg, New, France and Calder. This gives us seven less votes for the Dyer bill. Then, may I ask, by what process of reasoning can we conclude that we are expediting the passage of the anti-lynching bill by defeating those who would vote for it and electing hostile ones in their stead?

I have no apology to make for standing by the men of my party who have always stood for those things which will benefit our group. What I have done and am trying to do has been at a sacrifice; but I challenge any leader of the N. A. A. C. P. to show one thing he has done without reward or the hope of reward in fabulous salaries.

The public will well remember that when I came to Washington Mr. DuBois with his "Crisis," without investigation or otherwise, undertook to minify the importance of my position, forgetting that he had humiliated the association by wearing out the back steps of Woodrow Wilson seeking a captaincy—not to fight, but to join the other dilettantes in the intelligence bureau—not to mention his unfortunate "Close Ranks" article.

May I ask what credit does Mr Johnson give to the struggling colored newspapers throughout the country, which, in season and out labored for an anti-lynching bill? In face of the fact that these papers have worked in season and out for the passage of this bill, when the N. A. A. C. P. had $6,000 to spend for advertising, I should certainly never have been guilty of sending it down to The Atlanta Constitution and other white dailies which did not need it, when some of our press boys are crying for bread.

Certainly it was not right for my friend, Walter White, of the N. A. A. C. P., through the influence of my friend Bob Nelson, whose paper Senator du Pont says he has helped to the tune of $15,000 to keep it in existence, to import Democratic leaders to Wilmington to defeat Senator de Pont.

I said no word for Layton, who voted against the anti-lynching bill. But any thinking member of our group would a thousand times prefer to have Layton back in the House for two years and make certain of du Pont in the Senate for six years when we know that du Pont has stood pat on every roll call where the interest of the race was at stake, instead of having in his stead a man who can be depended upon to vote against us on every roll call despite his protestations of what he would do if elected.

I feel that Jim ought to go to those Democrats, whom they helped to elect, and ask them to help pass the anti-lynching bill since they have embarrassed us Republicans who were doing the best we could. I think that I am in position to say that the bill would have fared far better if there had been less of Johnson and his bunglesome tactics.

Johnson and others used the people's money lavishly under the assurance that this bill would pass, and, upon its failure, he seeks a "goat."

Instead of contributing to the defeat of this bill, I was the author of the Gahn bill, introduced by Congressman Gahn, of Cleveland, Ohio, to whom I was introduced by Mr. N. D. Brascher, and had the Gahn bill introduced with a view to forcing the proponents of the Dyer bill to encouch certain fundamental features into their bill to give it teeth. Mr. Dyer accepted these when we went before the Judiciary Committee of the House for a hearing.

"Jim" further knows that when the sixty-seventh Congress recessed in September, on the last day thereof he met Henry Lincoln Johnson and myself in Senator Lodge's office where we were all hustling and scurrying trying to get action on this bill before adjournment. And it was Senators du Pont, Frank Lodge, New and others we had busy of this proposition.

"Jim" knew all this when he let loose this diabolical and malicious release, which was solely for discrediting my friends and me and bolstering up himself; and when he says that there are astounding revelations of my activities to defeat this bill he takes himself out of the pale and category of decent men in uttering such an infamous falsehood, and I defy him to produce one scintilla of proof to sustain his malicious allegations.

The only difference between "Jim" and me on the anti-lynching bill is that he is growing rich while I am growing poorer in trying to put it through.

Regardless of whether in the change of changes bad persons, labelled Republicans, crop into office, still I am a Republican without apologies, and if this be treason, then make the most of it.

PERRY W. HOWARD.

LYNCH MEXICANS AND BLACKS AND START AN EXODUS

New York News
11-25-22

Mexican Government Protests Lynching of Its Nationals Before Breckenridge Outrage — Wire to Harding

On receipt of news from Texas that Mexicans and Negroes were being driven from their homes in Breckenridge, Texas, and that the Mexican government had protested against the lynching of its nationals in the United States, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, New York, immediately telegraphed President Harding renewing its demand for enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and asking federal protection of colored United States citizens in the danger zone. The telegram, which was signed by James Weldon Johnson, is as follows:

"National Association for the Advancement of Colored People respectfully calls your attention to international situation created by lynching of Mexicans as well as of Negroes in Texas, and again urges that Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill be indorsed by administration and enacted by Senate in order that the Federal Government may properly deal with this humiliating and dangerous situation.

"In the meantime may we respectfully urge that federal protection be extended to colored United States citizens of Breckenridge, Texas, who are being driven from their homes by threats of violence.

"(Signed)

"JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
"Secretary, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People."

MIAMI FLA. HERALD
DECEMBER 7, 1922

FUNNY WHILE IT LASTED.

It is not often that one can get a chuckle out of the Congressional Record, but reading of that more or less popular publication during the past week has afforded many a smile at the antics of the grave and reverend senators who successfully carried out a filibuster against the Dyer anti-lynching bill.

The Herald has been asked: How did they do it? How did they finally stave off a vote on that bill?

Well, here is about the way the democrats put it over. It is a rule of the senate that the first business of every legislative day is to read and approve the journal of the proceedings of the day before. Until that is done no business can be transacted. Ordinarily, when nothing is in the wind, the assistant secretary perfunctorily begins the reading of the journal, some senator rises in his seat and moves that the reading be dispensed with and the journal be approved, and it goes through without objection.

But when the democrats thought it necessary to kill the Dyer bill by not letting it go to a vote, they began by insisting that the journal be read in full. When that was done, some senator had a correction to be made to the record and moved that the journal be amended to comply with his correction.

That always brought on a discussion that lasted from a half to a full hour. Then a roll call was demanded, and to clear that away took at least another half hour.

To a layman, some of the corrections proposed sound rather finicky, but it was a matter of business to the senators who did not propose that the Dyer bill should receive consideration. One of the objections was that the journal did not report the prayer offered by the chaplain at the morning opening. Another one was that when it was said that the secretary read the journal, it did not show which secretary it was, and, of course, that was so important that it must be corrected, though it took several roll calls and suggestions of the absence of a quorum before it could be accomplished. Then, another time, the president pro-tem opened the day's session and subsequently the vice-president made his appearance and assumed the chair. Objection was made, next day, that the exact hour and minute at which the vice-president assumed his duties, was not noted in the journal and it took an hour or two to correct the journal in that respect, and so on and on until the patience of the supporters of the Dyer bill was exhausted. There was great peril that the nominations sent in by the president could not be considered, and the proponents gave up.

They entered into an agreement with the democratic leaders of the senate that the Dyer bill would not again be called up during this session of the congress, which kills the bill, for it is quite certain that the next congress will not consider the bill at all.

It was all very funny while it lasted and it accomplished the work undertaken by the democratic leaders, that of killing the anti-lynching bill.

Lynchings—1922.
Legislation Relating to, 1053

Perry Howard Tries To Answer Critics

Baltimore Herald & Commonwealth, Baltimore, Md. 12-20-22

Denies Antagonizing Dyer Bill. Holds Fast To Old Lincoln Republican Stuff

Washington, D. C., Dec. 15.—I have read with amazement the release from the N. A. A. C. P., of December 8th, charging that I defeated the Anti-Lynching bill.

I want to denounce the perfidy of those responsible for this release for disjointing my letter and leaving out certain parts, which was intended to make it distasteful. No honorable man would do this: and I challenge them to publish the letter in its entirety.

First. I want to say that any statement or intimation that I, in anywise, directly or indirectly, defeated or contributed to the defeat of the Anti-Lynching bill is a lie, and here is not a sane man in the country who believes this, including the man or men who released the article so charging.

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—PERRY W. HOWARD.

1053

1053

Lynchings—1922
Legislation

1054

SECOND DAY GONE WITHOUT PASSAGE OF DYER MEASURE

Atlanta Constitution 11-30-22

Filibuster Conducted by Democrats Declared to Be One of Most Scientific in History.

ADJOURNMENT TAKEN OVER THANKSGIVING

End of Day's Work Comes With Less Accomplished in Five Hours Than in Four Tuesday.

Favor Dyer Bill.

Macon, Ga., November 29.—Miss Fannie Belle Outler, of Wesleyan college, of this city, chairman of the student Y. W. C. A., tonight telegraphed Senators Harrison, Mississippi, and Harris, Georgia, protesting against the stand they have taken on the Dyer anti-lynching bill, now before the senate.

The telegram follows:

"As chairman of 15,000 members of the student Y. W. C. A. in ten southern states, I wish to voice our movement's opinion as one of emphatic protest against your attitude on the Dyer anti-lynching bill."

Both senators have opposed the bill, the provisions of which would subject counties wherein lynchings take place to severe penalties.

Washington, November 29.—Determination of senate republicans to wage a "finish fight" in behalf of the Dyer anti-lynching bill failed today to weaken democratic senators in their filibuster against the measure and the senate adjourned over Thanksgiving with no end to the filibuster in sight.

Appeals, arguments, criticisms and counter tactics were employed by the republicans in an endeavor to break through the democratic obstruction. All, however, went for naught and Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, who as the party leader, presided over the republican caucus yesterday at which a resolution was passed to force a senate session Thanksgiving day, if necessary, to break the filibuster, ended a five-hour session with a motion to adjourn until Friday.

The adjournment found the senate with less accomplished in five hours today than in yesterday's four-hour session at which the filibuster was inaugurated. The republicans yesterday succeeded in getting approved the journal of the previous day's proceedings, but today the reading of the journal was barely completed and Senator Harrison, of Mississippi, at the end of the session, stood ready to present nearly a dozen amendments to the journal, if necessary, to continue the filibuster.

Scientific Filibuster.

Senators on both the democratic and republican sides yesterday commented on the scientific way in which the democratic leaders conducted the filibuster.

These senators after today's session frankly declared that "more and more the wonder grew," and Senator Curtis, of Kansas, the republican whip, asserted on the floor that congress had seen no filibuster so complete since the famous Force bill was talked to death in 1891. Senator Willis, of Ohio, one of the strongest republican advocates of the anti-lynching bill, went even further in a speech late in the day and said "The parliamentary history of this country discloses nothing to approach the situation which now exists in the senate."

The determination of the democrats to continue obstruction until the republicans agreed to lay aside the Dyer bill was announced on the floor and in private conversation. Their determination, however, was no stronger than that of those republicans in charge of the measure. This was declared by some tonight to point to a continuation of efforts on both sides until the extra session adjourns sine die Saturday night.

Force Quorum.

The democrats today as yesterday started their tactics of obstruction by forcing a quorum call immediately after the chaplain concluded his prayer. The republicans, through Senator Curtis, promptly countered with a piece of strategy worked out by "the best minds" on the majority side—a point of order that the democratic tactics were dilatory. This stirred the democrats to attack and brough speeches from Senator Underwood, of Alabama, the minority leader, and Harrison, denouncing the move as savoring of "strong-arm methods," as "a reversal of the days of 'Czar' Reed in the house," and a resort to "Cannonism." The point was lost sight of in the debate that followed and was not renewed.

More debate marked today's session than yesterday and the democrats were compelled to make only two motions to amend the journal in furthering their policy of obstruction. One of these motions was to insert the chaplain's prayer, omission of which, Senator Harrison said, might cause children 100 years hence to "hang their heads in shame at their great-great-great-grandfathers in the senate." The other motion, which was still pending when the senate adjourned, would have designated in the journal the time when the president pro tempore yesterday gave up

HARDING FAVORS DYER BILL.

New York Times

But He Makes No Comment on Senate Democrats' Filibuster.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Harding personally favors the enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, it was declared at the White House today, although it was made clear that the Executive would make no comment concerning the Democratic filibuster in the Senate. 12-2-22

The Executive, it was added, feels that lynching is a "very sore spot on our boast of civilization."

Senate Democrats were relieved of continuing their filibuster today by adjournment until tomorrow out of respect for the memory of Representative Mann of Illinois, whose death occurred last night.

The filibuster, however, was well started for the third consecutive legislative day when the resolution from the House announcing the death of the Illinois member was received for Senate action.

Because of the almost unprecedented legislative situation facing the Senate as the result of the Democratic obstructionist tactics, adjournment had to be brought about by unanimous consent.

The Senate on meeting today was confronted with the task of approving the official journal of two legislative days, and the Democrats, through their leader, Senator Underwood of Alabama, announced and later demonstrated that this would be a rather difficult process. The work of approving the previous day's journal usually is only a matter of routine accomplished within less than a minute, but with journals piling up, the Senate might work day and night and yet never get anywhere near the transaction of any business.

Some Republican Senators were reported to be inclined to abandon the Dyer bill with the close of the extra session Monday noon, and Senator Underwood remarked at the opening of today's meeting that he had "hoped that the majority will soon see the wisdom of reaching an agreement with us which will allow us to discontinue our filibuster."

The dilatory manoeuvres made by the Democrats at today's brief session included the reading of Wednesday's journal and the presentation of the first of a series of amendments to it by Senator Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi. This amendment, which Senator Harrison said would correct "a grave inaccuracy," provided for a change in the minutes to show that the Assistant Secretary, instead of the Secretary, had read the journal of the previous day.

Negroes Talk Reprisal On Lynch Bill Defeat

Commercial Appeal 12-5-22

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People declared in a statement tonight, commenting on the Dyer bill, that it "has no intention of lessening its efforts to abolish lynching." Memphis, Tenn.

"The abandonment of the bill by the Republican leaders in the Senate," it said, "will have far-reaching effects upon the colored people of the whole country. Of prime importance will be the political effect upon negro voters in those northern states where they hold the balance of power or vote in numbers that they are a political factor."

Ohio's Anti-Lynching Law

The Gazette Cleveland, O.

Leads the Country in Legislation

Against The Mob and Lynch-Murder—The Work of a Member of The Race —Also Ohio's Civil Rights Law.

12-23-22

Our mob-violence or anti-lynching bill was introduced in the Ohio legislature in 1894 and re-introduced in 1896. It took Hon. Harry C. Smith the editor of The Gazette, just three years to secure its enactment into law. The Ohio Supreme Court has several times upheld the law which has been very effective. Only one other state (Illinois) in this country has such a law and it is largely a copy of our Ohio law. Here it is—(in the statutes) under the heading

Mob

Section
6278. "Mob" and "lynching" defined.
6279. "Serious injury" defined.
6280. Damages in case of assault.
6281. Damages in case of lynching.
6282. Damages recoverable by legal representative of victim of lynching
6283. Person suffering death or injury by mob trying to lynch another
6284. Limitations of action.
6285. Order to include recovery and costs in tax levy.
6286. Guardian's custody, etc., fees.
6287. County's right of action against member of mob.
6288. County's right of action against another county.
6289. Non-relief from prosecution.

Section 6278. A collection of people assembled for an unlawful purpose and intending to do damage or injury to any one, or pretending to exercise correctional power over other persons by violence and without authority of law, shall be deemed a "mob" for the purpose of this chapter. An act of violence by a mob upon the body of any person shall constitute a "lynching" within the meaning of this chapter. (93 v. 161 2.)

Section 6279. The term "serious injury," for the purpose of this chapter, shall include such injury as permanently or temporarily disables the person receiving it from earning a livelihood by manual labor. (93 v. 161 3.)

Section 6280. A person taken from officers of justice by a mob, and assaulted with whips, clubs, missiles or in any other manner, may recover, as hereafter provided, a sum not to exceed one thousand dollars as damages from the county in which the assault is made. (93 v. 161 4.)

Section 6281. A person assaulted and lynched by a mob may recover, from the county in which such assault is made, a sum not to exceed five hundred dollars; or, if the injury received therefrom is serious, a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars; or, if such injury result in permanent disability to earn a livelihood by manual labor, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars. (93 v. 162 5.)

Section 6282. The legal representative of a person dying from injuries received from lynching by a mob, may recover of the county in which such injury occured, a sum not to exceed five thousand dollars damages for such unlawful killing. Such sum shall be applied to the maintenance of the family and education of the minor children of such person so lynched, if any survive him, until such children are of legal age, and then be distributed to the survivors, share and share alike, the widow receiving an amount equal to a child's share. If there be no widow or minor children surviving such decedent, such sum shall be distributed among the next of kin according to the laws of the distribution of the personality of an intestate. Such sum so recovered shall not be a part of the estate of such person so lynched, nor be subject to any of his liabilities. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6283. A person suffering death or injury from a mob attempting to lynch another person shall come within the provisions of this chapter. He or his legal representatives shall have a like right of action as one purposely injured or killed by such a mob. (93 v 162 6.)

Section 6284. Action for the recoveries provided for in this chapter must be commenced, within two years from the date of such lynching, in any court having original jurisdiction of an action for damages for malicious assault. (93 v. 162 7)

Section 6285. An order to the commissioners of a county, against which such recovery is had, to include it with the costs of action, in the next succeeding tax levy for such county, shall be a part of the judgment in every such case. (93 v. 162 8.)

Section 6286. If the decedent so lynched has minor children surviving him, the fund shall be turned over to a regularly appointed guardian. Such guardian shall administer such fund under the direction of the probate judge, allowing not more than five hundred dollars for counsel fees in the action for such recovery. (93 v. 162 9.)

Section 6287. The county, in which a lynching occurs, may recover the amount of a judgment and costs against it in favor of the legal representatives of a person killed or seriously injured by a mob from any of the persons composing such mob. A person present, with hostile intent, at such lynching shall be deemed a member of the mob and be liable to such action. (93 v. 162 10.)

Section 6288. If a mob carries a prisoner into another county, or comes from another county to commit violence on a prisoner brought from such county for safekeeping, the county in which the lynching is committed may recover the amount of the judgment and costs from the county from which the mob came, unless there was contributory negligence on the part of officials of such county in failing to protect such prisoner or disperse such mob. (93 v 163 11.)

Section 6289. This chapter shall not relieve a person concerned in such lynching from prosecution for homicide or assault for engaging therein. (93 v. 163 12.)

OUR OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS LAW

Upon the request of many readers of The Gazette we print below the text of Hon. Harry C. Smith's Ohio Civil Rights law which the editor had enacted while a member of the 71st General Assembly, in 1894:

The General Code of Ohio:

Sec. 12940. Whoever, being the proprietor or his employee, keeper or manager of an inn, restaurant, eating house, barber-shop, public conveyance by land or water, theater or other place of public accommodation and amusement, denies to a citizen, except for reasons applicable alike to all citizens and regardless of race or color, the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges thereof, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or imprisoned not less than thirty days nor more than ninety days, or both.

Sec. 12941. Whoever violates the next preceding section shall also pay not less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars to the person aggrieved thereby to be recovered in any court of competent jurisdiction in the county where such offense was committed.

This law has repeatedly been held constitutional and good law by the Ohio Supreme court. The trouble is our people will not use it as often as they should, but expect it to do for them what they should and must do for themselves, under it, in the courts.

Judge Grant's Opinion of the Law.

Misled by the foolishly manufactured outcry for the passage of the Beaty bill, a few years ago, the Akron Beacon Journal published an editorial to which the editor of The Gazette replied, calling its attention to the fact that the Ohio Civil Rights law was good law and did not need amending. The following letter from Judge Grant, former presiding judge of the Court of Appeals of the Eighth District of Ohio, is self explanatory:

Akron, O., April 25, 1919.

Hon. Harry C. Smith,
Editor The Gazette Cleveland, O.

My Dear Sir: Observing your letter in the Beacon-Journal, of this city, I venture to send you, under a separate cover, the Ohio Law Reporter of Feb. 3, last, containing the opinion of the Court of Appeals in the Puritan Lunch Co. vs. Leonard H. Forman, decided in Akron, last fall, in which a judgment for ($500) five hundred dollars was sustained. If the Beacon-Journal had known what was going on in its own town, there would have been no occasion for criticism, editorially. THE LAW OF OHIO IS UNDER NO REPROACH, nor our courts and juries, in administering it. Not a word was said by the Beacon-Journal when the Forman case was reviewed.

Very truly yours,
C. R. Grant.

8079 ELKTON. MD., WHIG.
DECEMBER 9, 1922

LYNCHERS AND "REGULATORS

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, op position to which cost a number o Republican members of the presen House of Representatives, their seat in the new House chosen on Novem ber 7, including Congressman Layton of Delaware, owing to hostility o colored voters, wasted most of th time of the special session of th Senate last week. The Democrat conducted a novel successful filibuste against the bill simply by continually moving to correct the Senate Journal bringing on an unbreakable deadlock The Republicans finally gave in anc agreed to pigeon-hole the bill for the remaining hours of the special session and the regular session of Congress which opened at noon on Monday.

As for the bill, back in Benjamin Harrison's time James G. Blaine, Secretary of State, in connection with the lynching of prominent Italians in New Orleans, in reply to Marquis di Rudini Italian Foreign Minister stated that the United States Government could only grant monetary compensation for the deaths of the victims and that punishment of the lynchers rested entirely with the State of Louisiana. It is doubtful, whether the bill, had it passed and been approved by President Harding, would have stood the test of constitutionality in the Supreme Court.

Attorney General Daugherty ha informed Senator Walsh, of Massa chusetts, that he can find no warran for Federal action against the Ku Klux Klan for its assumption of pow to regulate the conduct of person whom it seeks to discipline or punisl at its whim or will. One might suppose that there was as much warran for Federal intervention or interfer ence in the one case as in the other an would think that if the Dyer bil should be revived, it should apply a like to both lynchers and "regulators Rule of the Mob, whether sporadic o organized can be controlled, if com munities so resolve. The Federa Government, as things are, has it handsfull in enforcing existing crim inal statutes without taking on adde troubles.

Lynchings — 1922.

Legislation, Relating to.

1055

THE Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is dead; long live the next anti-lynching bill! The Republican leaders, whose only interest in the bill was a desire to pacify their Negro constituents, surrendered—as, according to Washington rumor, had been prearranged—to the blustering [illegible] of the Southern Democrats. The defeat of the [illegible] for the reactionary forces of the white South, a victory, in effect, for lynching. Senator Overman of North Carolina stated an absolute falsehood when he declared that "the decent hard-working Negroes of the South enjoy every safeguard of the law." They do not. Nor is it true, as he asserted, that they neither wanted nor needed Federal protective legislation. Yet the campaign for the bill is not wholly lost. The ghastly facts of lynching have been advertised to the American people; the lies about the causes of lynching have been exposed; more people than ever before realize America's national shame. When the colored people make their next effort at self-protection we hope they will not rely again upon the old guard of Republicans but will seek the aid of the progressive group. Senator Borah, who believed against his will that the Dyer bill was unconstitutional, might be willing to lend his aid in discovering an even more satisfactory method of Federal protection.

STATES TO DEAL WITH MOB VIOLENCE

We have received a letter from the Southern Co-Operative League in which we are informed that the executive committee of the League of Southern Governors "have appointed a very strong commission of lawyers and business men to draft a model bill for the prevention of lynching, to secure its passage in each Southern legislature and to create a public conscience for law and order." The letter further says:

"We are determined to remove the onus of mob violence which now hangs over the South so heavily and which so utterly discredits our Nation in the eyes of the whole world. The work of this commission, in the process of having a bill passed by each legislature, will have an educational value scarcely less important than the law itself, for the education of public opinion must precede the effective enforcement of any law."

The criminal laws now on the statute books of the States are sufficient to cover entirely any mob violence which may occur, or to prevent any that threatens to occur. It is not a question of sufficient law, but of sufficient public respect for law and the scrupulous performance of sworn duty of law officials to enforce law and respect for law. Much of the opposition to the Federal Anti-Lynching legislation has been because of the conviction that mob violence is a matter for the State and not the Federal Government to deal with. It is because of that conviction that Congress has failed to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill and deferred consideration of it to the next session of Congress.

The appointment of a commission by the Governors of Southern States to draft a proper law, and to submit it to the several State legislatures is one of the most beneficial services the Southern Co-Operative League has rendered, and that is saying a great deal, as it is one of the most useful organizations in the country. If it can create the necessary public sentiment to bring about the adoption by the Southern legislatures of necessary legislation to stamp out mob violence, it will be a blessing to the South it is not possible to estimate. It is the business of the States to enact and enforce such legislation, but they will hardly do it unless the proper public sentiment can be created and gotten actively behind the movement. We believe with Secretary J. E. McCulloch of the League that this can be done, and shall do our part in helping to do it.

BUTTE MONT MINER
NOVEMBER 30, 1922

Lynching the Constitution.

No surprise need be felt that the democrats of the senate are strongly opposed to the passage of the so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill.

There are a good many other people who are most bitterly opposed to mob law, who consider this measure a very dangerous one on account of the precedent it sets in placing the federal government in control of domestic affairs of the states.

Many of the greatest constitutional authorities have held that if this law is enacted, it will be declared unconstitutional for the main reason the federal government cannot supersede the state authorities and courts in matters connected with crimes against the peace of the individual commonwealth.

It has been openly charged that the republican majority is bent upon forcing this matter through, solely for the purpose of endeavoring to retain the colored vote in the United States.

Naturally, nearly all Afro-American citizens are behind the bill, for they have been, and still are the greatest sufferers from lynch law.

That some means should be found to check the brutal and inhuman actions of mobs every thoughtful person will concede, but this is not the right remedy, and it is a most dangerous one to apply.

If the federal government can be clothed with paramount jurisdiction in punishing lynching within a state, this jurisdiction can be extended so as to take control of all crimes and other offenses against the law.

In other words, it would be the most revolutionary step yet taken in the direction of setting aside state rights and home rule within the separate commonwealths.

Of late years the whole tendency in Washington has been towards centralization of government, and it is high time this movement was checked or else we must admit that one of the main principles upon which this government was founded needs repealing and should be abrogated.

The Miner for its part, while most vigorously opposed to lynch law, is not willing to admit that the form of the national government needs recasting, and that the forefathers of the nation were in error when they adopted the plan of government we now enjoy.

For a long time past it has been evident that there has been a call in this country for a return to the constitution.

Of late, however, there has been a sentiment abroad to avoid the spirit of that immortal document whenever it appears to be in the way of those who desire to have enacted some so-called reform or radical legislation.

As a matter of fact, the very purpose of all constitutions is to prevent some whim or half-baked idea being made a law of the land.

It was reported last summer that every member of the senate judiciary committee, with one exception, declared it to be his opinion that this Dyer anti-lynch law was unconstitutional.

But, for political purposes, the republican party made up its mind to enact it.

In order to stop lynching, it appears to be a very poor business to first lynch the constitution of the United States.

LYNCHING BILL BURIED WHEN LODGE BEGS END OF SENATE FILIBUSTER

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn.
12-3-22

Democratic Victory Against "Force" Bill Is Complete.

REPUBLICANS IN CAUCUS

Vote to Abandon Measure Even for Next Session.

STATEMENT BY LODGE

"Of Course, the Republicans Feel as Strongly as I Do That the Bill Ought to Become a Law," He Declares—Yet Admits Whole Session Would Have Been Consumed by the Filibuster.

(By The Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Success crowned the filibuster of Senate Democrats against the Dyer anti-lynching bill today when Republican senators in party caucus voted to abandon the measure completely.

The Republican majority acted after the Democrats, by what is generally conceded to have been one of the most efficiently conducted filibusters in the history of the Senate, had prevented the transaction of any business for the fourth consecutive legislative day. The obstructionist tactics of the Democrats moreover were threatening more than a thousand presidential nominations which if unconfirmed by Monday noon when the special session ends, must be again submitted.

Shortridge Beaten.

The Republican caucus was preceded by a conference attended by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, the Republican leader; Curtis of Kansas and Senator Shortridge of California in charge of the Dyer bill. Mr. Shortridge, who had been unmovable throughout the filibuster, was understood to have agreed at this conference to allow the fate of the bill to be decided by a majority caucus.

The question of abandoning the measure, which was passed by the House last session, was debated in the caucus for two hours, it is understood, a small minority holding out for a continuation of the fight. The final decision, however, was to direct Senator Lodge to inform the Democratic leaders that the bill would be pushed no further either at the special session or at the regular session convening Monday. This means the death of the legislation, which the Democrats have attacked as "a force bill" and as unconstitutional.

The decision, Republican leaders say after the caucus, will permit confirmation of a large number of the pending nominations at a session of the Senate convening at 10 o'clock Monday, two hours in advance of the meeting of Congress in regular session. Among these nominations is that of Pierce Butler of Minnesota to be an associate justice of the supreme court.

Majority and minority leaders alike were agreed tonight that the filibuster thus brought to an end by the Republican caucus decision will take a place as one of the most notable in Senate history. It has differed from previous filibusters in that it involved no long speeches, Democrats having utilized the usual routine approving the journal. Under Senate rules no business can be transacted until the journal or minutes of the previous session have been approved and the Democrats took advantage of this rule, refusing approval, presenting amendments, demanding quorum calls and requesting the ayes and noes on every question brought up.

The parliamentary effect of these

maneuvers may be gauged by the fact that the Senate when it quit work today had before it as unfinished business the journals of Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, with Senator Harrison, Democrat, Mississippi, one of the Democratic leaders in the filibuster, standing ready with a dozen or more amendments. Republicans realized the seriousness of the Democratic moves by the utilization by Senator Harrison of one amendment today to consume two hours of the Senate's time.

Question of Senate Rules.

Leaders on both sides were agreed tonight that the filibuster had had the additional effect of directing attention to Senate rules under which a minority by well directed moves may block any legislation and which Senator Cummins, Iowa, the president pro tempore, yesterday described as belonging to "another civilization." Although generally agreeing that some changes may be made in the way of limiting debate, leaders said any such action by the present Senate was unlikely because of lack of time, and that changes probably would not be brought about by the next Senate because of the large progressive group which has, as a rule, opposed limitation of debate.

Senator Lodge made the following statement tonight on the Republican decision:

"The conference was in session nearly three hours and discussed the question very thoroughly. Of course, the Republicans feel very strongly as I do, that the bill ought to become law. The situation before us was this: Under the rules of the Senate the Democrats who are filibustering could keep up that filibuster indefinitely and there is no doubt that they can do so.

"An attempt to change the rules would only shift the filibuster to another subject. We cannot pass the bill in this Congress, and therefore we had to chose between giving up the whole session to a protracted filibuster or going ahead with the regular business of the session, which includes the farm legislation, the shipping and the appropriation bills. The conference decided very reluctantly that it was our duty to drop the Dyer bill."

MOB RULE IN THE SENATE

THE DYER BILL has been consigned to the waste basket, but popular sentiment, which secured its passage by the House, will ultimately triumph so that this or a similar bill will eventually become a law. Its present demise seemingly is the result of administrative indifference if not clandestine hostility. The bill passed the House in January last. If it had been championed as an administration measure, as it should have been, it would have been favorably reported from the Senate judiciary committee inside of one month from the time it was referred to that committee.

Chicago Defender

ITS DEFEAT in that event through filibustering tactics would have been impossible. But it was delayed long enough to give its enemies the necessary advantage of being able to control the situation. The truth is the Senate is not a deliberative body. Under its present rules, customs and traditions it is almost impossible for any bill to be passed or any nomination to be confirmed to which a stubborn minority may see fit to object. Then what is known as senatorial courtesy is a mischievous custom wholly unsuited to our form of government. These rules and customs may have been practicable in the early days of the republic, when the Senate was composed of only a handful of members, but with the expansion of membership it will be necessary to make radical changes, as has been done in the House. 12-16-22

THAT SOUTHERN Democratic senators would vigorously oppose the bill was to be expected. With few exceptions they are the official products of the very methods this bill was intended to punish and prevent. Our great surprise, however, is that not a single Northern Democratic senator had the courage, the manhood and the independence to break away from the leadership of representatives of the Southern oligarchy. We had hoped that Senator Walsh of Massachusetts and possibly one or two other Democrats would be courageous enough to follow the magnificent example set by the gallant Bourke Cochran of New York and take a lead in support of this just, fair and equitable measure. But in this we were disappointed.

THIS PROVES that Northern Democrats as a rule are still the subservient followers and the submissive servants of their Southern political masters. This is the principle reason why the people of the United States are not willing to entrust the Democratic party with power. But the Republicans must not fool themselves into believing that they can always win political victories and carry elections on account of the blunders, faults and shortcomings of their political opponents.

IF FORCED to do so the people will find a way to get what they want without being compelled at all times to choose the least of two admitted evils when both are unquestionably bad. Intelligent Americans know that the final passage of this bill was never seriously contemplated, otherwise its consideration would have been insisted upon until a final vote was reached, let the consequences be what they may. But the administration wanted Southern votes for the ship subsidy bill, which it evidently deems more important than the bill in the interest of human life. Hence, in obedience to instructions which perhaps came from the White House, Southern Democrats were placated by having the Dyer bill sidetracked and thrown into the discard. The future will determine what the effect will be.

Lynching the Anti-Lynching Bill

For the leader of the minority to announce that the Senate is not going to be allowed to take a vote upon a certain bill is to lay down an impossible rule. Legislation is practicable only by curtailment of debate, voluntary or involuntary. If Senator Underwood and his followers can kill the anti-lynching bill by mere filibustering—and they can—a much smaller minority can kill any other bill. The feat has been accomplished more than once by a single Senator. An even greater achievement was that of Senator Tillman in 1903, when with a copy of "Childe Harold" in his hand he obtained the floor and broke to his fellow Senators the news that he would read to them from Byron and other authors until the session ended, unless they would restore in an appropriation bill an item providing for payment to his State of a war claim. The item was restored.

N. Y. E. POST
NOVEMBER 29, 1922

If Senator Underwood were leading the majority he would be as outspoken in denouncing unlimited filibuster as he is now in threatening to use it. His excuse is that he regards the anti-lynching bill as a menace to State government, but he would hardly argue that every measure which any Senator regards as menacing a principle of our Government is to be blocked by a filibuster. This is simply to give every member of the Senate a veto upon legislation. It would have been ample justification for an unlimited filibuster against the amendment providing for direct election of Senators, which men of such unquestioned patriotism and enlightenment as the late Senator Hoar regarded as upsetting the balance of the Federal system. To insist upon full debate is one thing. To deny the Senate an opportunity to vote at all is quite another.

Southern Senators give their case away when they point out that lynching is not confined to their section. The anti-lynching bill is not confined to their section, either. It will operate just as promptly upon a Northern community which fails to protect its citizens as upon a Southern community. Nor is it directed against lynching of negroes alone. It would strike as directly against a Ku Klux outbreak as against a race riot. All that it does is to strengthen the forces that stand for orderly procedure by adding to them the power of the Federal Government. Anybody who sees in this action something threatening to our system of government should also be able to see something threatening in what Senator Underwood characterizes as the usurpation of power "by mobs or any other group of persons who think they are above the law."

COLUMBUS O. JOURNAL
NOVEMBER 29, 1922

States' Rights vs. Lynching.

There is one measure on the program of the extra session of Congress which ought to be passed. It is the Dyer anti-lynching bill, already approved by the house and now before the senate. It is urged against this bill that it is unconstitutional, but that is for the supreme court to decide. The chief objection made to it is that it violates states' rights. We are as much opposed as anybody to wholesale expansion of the federal power and reckless encroachments upon home rule. But this bill represents no effort at foolish paternalistic legislation, calculated to provide jobs for lame ducks and uplifters, to increase the people's taxes and to do certain work worse than if it were left in the hands of the people directly interested. This bill aims to protect human rights, the majesty of the law and the good name of the United States in circumstances with which communities, South and North, repeatedly have proved themselves unable or unwilling to cope.

The lynching evil is a burning disgrace to America. Its existence makes it grimly humorous to talk about our duty to help uplift Europe, as if a man should start off to be a foreign missionary while his neighbor was beating his wife in the front yard. The chief objection to the Dyer bill seems to us all right academically but wholly unsound practically. If the federal government, on its vantage ground of aloofness from local prejudices and fears, had automatically taken sole charge at Herrin at the start, we imagine some of the murderers would have been convicted long ago. As things are, nothing important has been done and probably nothing ever will be done. A lynching is a terrible thing but the escape of known lynchers without punishment is still more terrible, for it holds up law and ordered government to contempt and endangers society everywhere in America.

Lynchings — 1922
Legislation

1856

THE REPUBLICAN ABANDONMENT OF THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

The failure of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill to be passed by the Senate may be ascribed to two contributing causes. The first was the filibuster on the part of the Southern Democrats. The second was the apathy and insincerity of the Republicans. This filibuster is acknowledged to have been the most naked and brutal exhibition of its kind ever made in the Senate. A filibuster is generally carried on under some sort of disguise, but Senator Underwood of Alabama, Democratic leader, made a statement on the floor of the Senate regarding the tactics of his party in which he said: New York Age, 12/16/22

> "We are not disguising what is being done on this side of the Chamber. It must be apparent not only to the Senate but to the country that an effort is being made to prevent the consideration of a certain bill, and I want to be perfectly candid about it. The bill is known in the "Record" as the Dyer Bill, I believe; I have forgotten its number. * * * At the last session of Congress we had this 'force' bill up and I think I very candidly stated to the Senate when it was up that we did not propose to allow it tobe passed, and I want to say right now to the Senate that if the majority party insist on this procedure they are not going to pass the bill and they are not going to do any other business. * * * We are going to transact no more business until we have an understanding about this bill. I am saying this because I am not trying to put the responsibility upon the other side. They can say I said it. If you gentlemen want to continue, after this candid statement of the case, and keep this bill before the Senate you know it is going to be blocked and cannot be passed, thereby stopping the transaction of all other business, go ahead. * * * If you do not intend to do that we might as well come to an understanding and lay the bill aside, because you cannot pass it. * * * The members of the majority party do not have to take the responsibility. We are willing to take the responsibility and we are going to do it.

There is no doubt that Mr. Underwood meant what he said and that he voiced the sentiments of the Southern members of his party.

Equally responsible for the failure of the bill was the lukewarmness and apathy and even the insincerity of the Republicans. From the beginning, the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill has been a distasteful measure to the great majority of Republicans in the Senate, one that they dreaded having to face. The progress which the Bill made from the time of its being referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary to its being brought up for consideration on the floor was made literally under whip and spur and not because the Republican leaders in the Senate tried or even wished to advance it. The Republican leaders in the Senate, Senator Lodge in particular, hoped and expected that the Bill would be left to sleep and die in committee. It took Herculean efforts to get the Bill reported out and it took efforts equally strenuous to have it placed on the legislative program, and even after it was there, it was necessary to bring great pressure in order to have the measure brought to the floor.

The statements made by Senator Underwood to the effect that the Democrats assumed full responsibility for the defeat of the Bill by not allowing it to be taken up fell like sweet music upon the ears of most of the Republican senators. They felt that such a course on the part of the Democrats would relieve the Republicans of the necessity of fighting for the passage of the Bill and at the same time relieve them of the responsibility for its failure.

The Republicans evidently felt that such appearances would deceive the Negroes of the country. In this they will find themselves mistaken. The colored people of the country will not be deceived by such a cheap show. They know and fully understand that the actual fight was the one made by the Southern Democrats against the Bill rather than by the Republicans in its behalf. If the Republican senatorial leaders think the Negro will be satisfied merely because they allowed the Southern Democrats to "put themselves on record" they are mistaken. The demand of the Negro was that the Republicans also put themselves on record, and this they failed to do.

On Saturday night, December 2, the Republicans in the Senate held a caucus to discuss what should be done about the Bill. The caucus was largely attended and the question of abandoning the Bill was hotly discussed for more than two hours. Gradually the attendance dwindled until there were only some twenty odd senators left. A vote was taken and the majority agreed to abandon the Bill. Against this vote nine senators held out for carrying the fight until the 4th of March if necessary.

We believe that if the majority of the Republicans in the Senate had had the backbone of these nine men and had met the challenge of the Southern filibusterers and dared them to stop absolutely the business of the government rather than allow the consideration of the Bill, public sentiment would finally have brought a pressure which the filibusterers would not have been able to withstand. At any rate, such a course would have shown courage and sincerity on the part of the Republicans and would have brought to the public mind a realization of the antiquated and obsolete system of rules under which the Senate tries to operate. That the Bill was abandoned because of the determined fight of the Southerners in the Senate will be no excuse to the colored people for the apathy and cowardice of the Republicans. It is this attitude on the part of the Republicans that the colored people will resent as much as they will deplore the actual failure of the Bill.

SOUTH FLAMES INTO FILIBUSTER ON LYNCHING BILL

Chicago Daily Tribune

And Republican Senators Stand Pat After Caucus.

Chicago, Ill.,
11-29-22

BY ARTHUR SEARS HENNING

Washington, D. C., Nov. 28.—[Special.]—Denouncing the Dyer anti-lynching bill as proposing the most daring and destructive invasion of state rights in history, southern Democratic senators set out today to kill the measure, even if it should be necessary to halt the entire legislative machinery indefinitely.

The bill passed by the house empowering the federal government to intervene to punish lynchers and local governments which fail to enforce the law against lynchers was termed a "force" bill and unconstitutional by its bitter southern opponents.

Senator Underwood (Ala.), their leader, bluntly served notice that all business of every character, including even confirmation of presidential nominations, would be blocked until the effort to pass the Dyer bill should be abandoned.

G. O. P. Caucus Desides to Stick.

This threat was carried out so effectively that Republican senators held a caucus late in the day to devise ways and means of combating the filibuster and after a protracted debate behind closed doors decided to continue the fight for the Dyer bill, even to the extent of forcing the senate to remain in session on Thanksgiving day if necessary to wear down the filibusters.

The Democrats were confident of their ability to create a complete legislative jam and hold up the Dyer bill at least until the next congress, in which they have no fear of the measure. They declared that they had not begun to uncover the resources at their command in today's proceeding and that they would be ready to resume the filibuster tomorrow with an end of legislative tricks up their sleeves.

The senate has never witnessed a better organized and executed filibuster. Nor has it ever before seen a filibuster in which the filibusters openly and frankly avowed that they were filibustering.

This Is a Real Filibuster.

"We're not disguising our pur-

poses," said Senator Underwood. "This is a force bill pure and simple. We stand for law and order and we don't believe in mob rule, but this measure threatens the very fabric of our government. It's not going to be passed; it is an impossible proposition. You are not going to do any more business until we get an understanding that this bill won't be pressed.

"Although there are many important nominations before the senate, there will be no confirmations. You do not have to take the responsibility for killing this measure. We are willing to take the responsibility and we are going to."

Senator Edge (N. J.), Republican, demanded that the senate be given an opportunity to vote upon the measure. He succeeded only in bringing down upon himself the wrath of Democrats. Senator McKellar (Tenn.) wanted to know whether the bill would enable the federal government to punish the guilty persons in the Hall-Mills murder case. Mr. McKellar charged that there had been a breakdown of justice in that case and that nine-tenths of the people of the United States could put their finger on the murderer.

President Hears Dyer Bill Plea

Chicago Defender, 11-11-22

Washington, D. C., Nov. 10.—A delegation of the National Equal Rights League had an audience with President Harding at the Whitehouse office Saturday for the purpose of speeding up action by the United States senate on the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. The audience had been arranged through Senator H. C. Lodge of Massachusetts and lasted 30 minutes.

The delegation consisted of Wm. Monroe Trotter, a citizen of Massachusetts, M. W. Spencer of Delaware, J. L. Neill of Tennessee, Rev. E. A. Abbott of New York, Rev. W. O. Carrington of North Carolina, Rev. J. L. Finn of New York, T. A. Johnson of Georgia, J. L. Taylor of Alabama, H. P. Slaughter of Kentucky, editor of the Odd Fellows' Journal, with Trotter as spokesman.

Mr. Trotter explained the mission to be that of urging the President to use the powers, prestige and influence of his position and of his personality to speed up actual enactment of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill by the U. S. senate, especially in connection with the contemplated extraordinary session this month, as it was a remedy for mob murders and these were continuing at the average rate of one each week. He then presented a petition with 10,000 signatures from nearly 30 states, asking the President to name the bill in his call for the extra session.

The first petition was from the President's home town, Marion, Ohio, one was from Omaha, Neb., one from members of the 24th U. S. infantry at Fort Benning, Ga., several from Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, etc.

The President expressed himself as in sympathy with the cause presented.

DEMOCRATS BLOCK LYNCH BILL; G. O. P. CONTINUES FIGHT

Houston Post, Houston, Tex.

Measure Will Hold Floor Despite Brilliant Filibusters

11-29-22

SENATORS KILL TIME EASILY

Associated Press Report.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Republican members of the senate, after a four-hour filibuster, waged by the democrats, and after threats from the democratic side of continued obstruction, voted in caucus tonight to continue the fight in behalf of the Dyer anti-lynching bill.

The further decision was reported by the republican senators to hold the senate in session on Thanksgiving day—a most unusual occurrence—if such action was found necessary to break democratic opposition. The vote on continuing the fight for the Dyer bill which has been passed by the house, was understood to have been 24 to 1.

The republican caucus brought to a close a rather turbulent day at the senate wing of the capital, for democratic senators, acting in accord with a stand taken several days ago in party caucus, showed immediately on the convening of the senate that they proposed to block the anti-lynching bill in every possible way.

Filibuster Starts Early.

Led from the floor by Senator Harrison, Mississippi, the democrats started what they frankly conceded to be a filibuster the minute the chaplain concluded the morning prayer. Tactics included objection to the usual course of dispensing with the reading of the journal, numerous quorum calls and presentation of amendments to yesterday's journal on which invariably aye and nay votes were demanded.

Senate attaches characterized it as "the most scientifically conducted filibuster" carried on in the senate in years and as proof of this it was cited that only after signs of yielding had been seen on the republican side did the democrats permit yesterday's journal to be approved. This process usually consumes about 30 seconds, but today it required four hours and might have taken longer, for when the senate adjourned Senator Harrison had on his desk a dozen or so amendments to the journal which he had prepared to offer.

Not alone did the democrats show by their tactics that they were unalterably opposed to consideration of the Dyer bil, but through their leader, Senator Underwood, of Alabama, said so plainly. Senator Underwood taking the floor late in the afternoon, told the majority leaders that the democrats had determined to permit the transaction of no business, not even the confirmation of nominations, until the republicans agreed to abandon the anti-lynching measure which he characterized as "a force bill pure and simple."

Attempting No Disguise.

"We are not disguising what is being done on this side of the chamber," said the democratic leader. "We frankly tell you that we are endeavoring to prevent consideration of the Dyer bill. If this bill becomes a law it will threaten the very fabric of our government. But it will never become a law and you gentlemen on the republican side might just as well admit it now and give up the fight."

Faced with this threat and further notified of the determination of the democrats who carried their obstructionist tactics into an executive session of the senate just before adjournment, republican leaders taking council among themselves determined upon an immediate party caucus. Some consideration was given in this caucus to the legislative program for the regular session, but no decisions on this point were reached.

The Dyer bill itself was scarcely mentioned in the senate until after two hours of the filibuster had passed, but the statement from Senator Underwood opened up a debate on the measure which ranged from the Hall-Mills murder case in New Jersey to the Japanese question in California, but all centered about the anti-lynching measure.

Says Lynching Winked At.

Senator Edge, republican, New Jersey, advocated enactment of the bill, declaring that in a number of States lynching was winked at and some legislation was needed to allow the federal government to step in. This argument brought the statement from Senator McKellar, democrat, Tennessee, that "one of the most remarkable examples of unpunished crime was in New Jersey although nine tenths of the people of the United States could, without difficulty, put their finger on the murderer."

The Tennessee senator a few minutes later, after an interchange with Senator Shortridge, republican, California, in charge of the bill, brought up the killing of William Desmond Taylor, Los Angeles motion picture director, as an example of a case in which the federal government, under the bill, might intervene as much as he said, "the commonwealth of California has failed to prosecute the murderer."

Rep. Dyer Disappoints Colored Audience

Norfolk Journal & Guide, Va.

(Special to Journal & Guide)

Wilmington, Del.—Representative Leonidas C. Dyer, of St. Louis, Mo., who was advertised to speak at the National theatre on yesterday afternoon under the auspices of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Anti-Lynching Crusaders and the Independent Voters League, failed to show up and disappointed a large audience of colored people. 10/21/22

It is charged that the Republican campaign managers had Mr. Dyer to break this engagement because of the bitter fight being made by these organizations against Representative Layton. A speech by Mr. Dyer on the anti-lynching bill in the heat of campaign could not have been construed as other than against his Republican colleague and for the Democratic candidate.

FILIBUSTER STAGED IN SENATE AGAINST ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Montgomery Advertiser

Democratic Members Succeed in Delaying Consideration of Measure

11-29-22

(Associated Press)

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FILIBUSTER BEATS ANTI-LYNCH BILL IN UPPER HOUSE

Houston Post, Houston-Texas.

Republicans Vote in Caucus to Abandon Measure Completely

12-2-22

SENATE WORK TO GO FORWARD

Associated Press Report.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2. — Success crowned the filibuster of senate democrats against the Dyer anti-lynching bill today when republican senators in party caucus voted to abandon the measure completely.

The republican majority acted after the democrats by what is generally conceded to have been one of the most efficiently conducted filibusters in the history of the senate, had prevented the transaction of any business for the fourth consecutive legislative day. The obstructionists tactics of the democrats moreover were threatening more than a thousand presidential nominations which if unconfirmed by Monday noon when the special session ends, must be again submitted.

The republican caucus was preceded by a conference attended by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, the republi-

(Cont'd on Pg. 18, Col. 1.)

Wisconsin Colored Voters Retired Foe of Dyer Anti-Lynch Bill

Wilmington Advocate, Wilmington, Del. 12-2-22

NEW YORK, Nov. 29.—A third enemy of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, besides Dr. Caleb R. Layton of Delaware, and R. Wayne Parker of New Jersey, was retired by the colored voters of Wisconsin, according to announcement made today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 Fifth avenue, New York. This foe to the Dyer Bill, who voted against it in the House of Representatives, is W. H. Stafford of the Fifth District in Wisconsin, who was opposed by the Milwaukee branch of the N. A. A. C. P., under the leadership of its president, G. H. De Reef.

Stafford's opponent, Victor L. Berger, Socialist, was supported by colored voters and was elected, beating Stafford by nearly 4,000 votes. "And they credit us with his (Stafford's) defeat," says a letter from Mr. De Reef. "We eccept the honor as modestly as our joy permits."

Lynchings—1922.
Legislation.

1058

SOUTH CALLED TO ANTI-LYNCHING WAR

12/16/22

Wilmington Advocate

Methodist Women Demand That Mob Violence Be Blotted Out

Wilmington, Del.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 7.—(Special.)—A movement to enlist the 250,000 organized women of the Southern Methodist Church in a determined and systematic campaign for the suppression of lynching was launched here this week. A large group of representative women from thirteen states, all of them officials of the Woman's Missionary Council or Conference Social Service Superintendents, met at the call of the Race Relations Commission of the Council, spent three days in conference, and at the conclusion issued a vigorous address to the public relative to the lynching evil, calling upon the authorities of the several states and counties for its complete suppression and upon the citizens, the pulpit and the press for their united support to this end. The defeat of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was used to give point to their utterance.

They further pledged themselves, individually and in an official capacity as representing the social service leadership of the organized Methodist women, to a persistent campaign for adequate state laws and for law enforcement. Details of the plan are already being worked out.

The statement follows, together with the names of the women signers:

"Whereas, the defeat of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which provided for the federal control of lynching, has thrown the whole responsibility back upon each state for removing this hideous crime; therefore,

"Be it resolved, that we, the Commission on Race Relations of the Woman's Missionary Council, Methodist Episcopal Church, South, the conference social service superintendents and other officers in conference in Atlanta, Ga., December 4-6, 1922, do now demand of the authorities of the several states that they make good their claim proving their competency to abolish mob violence and lynching.

"That we assume our responsibility as citizens for the protection of human life and hereby call upon all the people of all the states, upon the pulpit and upon the press to join in an insistent and persistent agitation against this barbarous practice.

"That we formulate plans for an organized movement in behalf of adequate state laws and law enforcement.

Mrs. Luke Johnson, Georgia; Mrs. L. P. Smith, Texas; Miss Estelle Haskin, Tenn.; Mrs. W. A. Newell, North Carolina; Mrs. A. B. Smith, Tennessee; Mrs. W. J. Piggott, Kentucky; Mrs. L. W. Alford, Mississippi; Mrs. L. S. Arrington, Georgia; Mrs. T. A. Bennington, West Virginia; Mrs. Harvey Boney, North Carolina; Mrs. T. J. Copeland, Maryland; Mrs. W. T. Cunningham, Louisiana; Mrs. Frank Eanes, Florida; Mrs. T. M. Francis, Alabama; Mrs. Charles W. Griffin, Georgia; Mrs. S. W. Henry, South Carolina; Mrs. R. L. Keaton, South Carolina; Mrs. T. G. Lowry, Tennessee; Mrs. R. P. Moody, Kentucky; Mrs. W. L. Morrison, Tennessee; Mrs. W. V. Pittman, Mississippi; Mrs. R. H. Potts, Virginia; Mrs. J. C. Rawlings, Kentucky; Mrs. Oscar Reinhart, Alabama; Mrs. F. L. Siler, North Carolina; Mrs. W. A. Albright, Georgia; Miss Mary DeBardeleben, Oklahoma; Mrs. J. N. McEachern, Georgia; Mrs. R. E. Wynn, Louisiana; Mrs. George Matthews, Georgia; Mrs. E. B. Chappell, Tennessee.

DEMOCRATS SUCCEED IN DEFEATING DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Montgomery Advertiser

Filibuster of Minority Is Crowned With Success After Hard Fight

12-3-22

REPUBLICANS GIVE UP

Tactics Threaten Confirmation of Thousands of Appointments

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Success crowned the filibuster of senate democrats against the Dyer anti-lynching bill today when republican senators in party caucus voted to abandon the measure completely.

The republican majority acted after the democrats, by what is generally conceded to have been one of the most efficiently conducted filibusters in the history of the senate, had prevented the transaction of any business for the fourth consecutive legislative day. The obstructionist tactics of the democrats moreover were threatening more than a thousand presidential nominations which ,if unconfirmed by Monday noon when the special session ends, must be again submitted.

The republican caucus was preceded by a conference attended by Senator Lodge of Massachusetts, the republican leader; Senator Curtis, of Kansas, the republican whip, and Senator Shortridge of California, in charge of the Dyer bill. Mr. Shortridge, who had been unmovable throughout the filibuster, was understood to have agreed at this conference to allow the fate of the bill to be decided by a majority caucus.

The question of abandoning the measure, which was passed by the house last season, was debated in the caucus for two hours. It is understood that a small minority is holding out for a continuation of the fight. The final decision, however, was to direct Senator Lodge to inform the democratic leaders that the bill would be pushed no further either at the special session or at the regular session convening Monday. This means the death of the legislation, which the democrats have attacked as "a force bill" and as unconstitutional.

The decision, republican leaders said after the caucus, will permit confirmation of a large number of the pending nominations at a session of the senate convening at 10 o'clock Monday, two hours in advance of the meeting of congress in regular session. Among these nominations is that of Pierce Butler, of Minnesota, to be an associate justice of the supreme court.

Majority and minority leaders alike were agreed tonight that the filibuster thus brought to an end by the republican caucus decision will take a place as one of the most notable in senate history. It has differed from previous filibusters in that it involved no long speeches, democrats having utilized the usual routine action of approving the journal. Under senate rules no business can be transacted until the journal or minutes of the previous session have been approved and the democrats took advantage of this and requesting the ayes and naes on every question brought up.

The parliamentary effect of these maneuvers may be guaged by the fact that the senate when it quit work today had before it as unfinished business the journals of Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, with Senator Harrison, democrat, Mississippi, one of the democratic leaders in the filibuster, standing ready with a dozen or more amendments to each journal. Republicans realized the seriousness of the democrat moves by the utilization by Senator Harrison of one amendment today to consume two hours of the senate's time.

Leaders on both sides were agree tonight that the filibuster had had th additional effect of directing attentio to senate rules under which a minori by well directed moves may block ar legislation and which Senator Cur mins, Iowa, the president pro-tempo yesterday described as belonging "another civilization." Although ge erally agreeing that some chan should be made in the way of limiti debate, leaders said any such action the present senate was unlikely cause of lack of time and that chan probably would not be brought ab by the next senate because of the la progressive group which has as a opposed limitation of debate.

MACON HEARS MOTON

Montgomery Advertiser

Tuskegee Head Glad Negro Brought to America

12-3-22

(Associated Press)

MACON, GA., Dec. 2.—Dr. R. R. Moton, president of Tuskegee Institute declared in a good-will address at the city hall auditorium here tonight that negroes were fortunate in having been brought to this country; that missionaries would not have advanced them as rapidly in education and industry in 5,000 years or more.

Dr. Moton said that he was glad that one hears little today of "social equality" designed, he said, to bring up ill-feeling between the races.

The auditorium was filled to its capacity, nearly half of the audience being made up of white people.

Dr. Moton left here late tonight for the final speech of his tour of Georgia, in Columbus, tomorrow night. In his week's tour he has addressed more than 100,000 persons.

Lynchings— 1922
Legislation Relating to 1076

THE STATUS OF THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Many people are in doubt as to the actual status of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. They have seen in both colored and white newspaper statements to the effect that the Bill is dead. We shall therefore, give as clear and brief a statement as we can of what occurred during the last few days before the adjournment of Congress. New York age.

On Wednesday, August 28, the writer went to Washington in order to do whatever was possible to speed the action on the Dyer Bill. He was assured by Senator McCormick, and also by Senators Curtis, Watson of Indiana and Lodge, that the Senate Steering Committee would meet within a day or two and that the Anti-Lynching Bill would be placed on the program of measures to be taken up for consideration before Congress adjourned.

On August 30 the Steering Committee met and placed the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill on the program.

On September 14 the writer went again to Washington to urge the consideration of the Bill and remained there until after Congress adjourned. Republican leaders in the Senate repeatedly expressed their intention and determination to bring the Bill up for consideration before the adjournment of Congress. None of them felt that the Bill could be finally disposed of within that time; they all expected that the Democrats would not only demand the fullest time possible for discussion but that they would use filibustering tactics to impede its progress.

It was finally decided that the effort to bring up the Bill for consideration would be made on Thursday, September 21. Accordingly, it was arranged that Senator Shortridge would at the proper moment be recognized for that purpose.

In accordance with the plan, Senator Shortridge arose and secured the recognition of the Chair. Immediately, the Democrats were alive to situation. I do not think they anticipated the move, but as soon as Senator Shortridge arose they at once knew that it meant an effort to take up the Anti-Lynching Bill.

Before Senator Shortridge proceeded he yielded, following the rule of courtesy in the Senate, to Senator McNary to allow him to ask the Chair to lay before the Senate House amendments to a certain joint resolution; and again he yielded to Senator Warren to allow him to report from the Committee on Appropriations a joint resolution. Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi immediately raised the point of order that the resolution reported by Senator Warren was debatable. This point of order gave rise to a long and complicated parliamentary wrangle, which finaly ended in President pro tempore Cummins ruling that Senator Harrison and not Senator Shortridge was entitled to the floor. Senator Harrison took the floor and proceeded to hold it for nearly two hours; and the Democratic filibuster was on. The filibuster followed the usual method of calling for a quorum, calling for the yeas and nays, the breaking of quorums, and motions to adjourn.

When Senator Harrison took his seat it was near the usual hour of adjournment, and before taking his seat Senator Harrison again suggested the absence of a quorum. But Senator Shortridge was promptly on his feet and again secured the recognition of the Chair. Senator Shortridge addressed the Chair and said:—"I move that the Senate proceed to the consideration of House bill 13, being Calendar No. 822 ———." Before he could proceed to give the title of the bill Senator Harrison again pressed his suggestion that a quorum was not present. The roll was called and showed a quorum. Senator Heflin of Alabama then made a motion that the Senate adjourn. This motion was rejected. Finally Senator Shortridge was allowed to proceed.

Senator Shortridge, in presenting the Bill to the Senate, made a very strong and at the same time an exceedingly skilful speech. He was interrupted a number of times by questions and objections, particularly from Senator Shields (Democrat) of Tennessee who, as a member of the Judiciary Committee, had greatly opposed the reporting out of the Bill. The manenr in which Senator Shortridge met this opposition was so convincing and yet so tactful that it could be felt that the Democratic senators present realized it would be exceedingly embarrassing for them to vote against taking the bill up for consideration.

After Senator Shortridge concluded his remarks, the question of voting upon the consideration of the Bill was discussed. While the vote was pending the question of no quorum was raised again. The roll was called and the following senators answered to their names:

Braadegee	Curtis	Owen	Simmons
Bursum	France	Pepper	Sutherland
Calder	Jones, (Wash.)	Rawson	Swanson
Cameron	McCormick	Reed, (Pa.)	Townsend
Capper	McKellar	Robinson	Underwood
Cummins	McNary	Sheppard	Watson, (Ind.)
	Moses	Shortridge	

There being no quorum present, the vote was not taken and the Bill automatically went over for consideration to the next session of Congress.

From the roll call just above it may be seen that those Republican Senators who stayed through to the end of the fight for immedate consideration of the Bill were:

Bursum, N. Mex.	Moses, N. H.
Calder, N. Y.	Pepper, Pa.
Cameron, Ariz.	Rawson, Ia.
Capper, Kan.	Reed, Pa.
Curtis, Kan.	Shortridge, Cal.
France, Md.	Sutherland, W. Va.
Jones, Wash.	Townsend, Mich.
McCormick, Ill.	Warren, Wyo.
McNary, Ore.	Watson, Ind.

The Republican leaders in the Senate state that the only unfinished business on the program of the Steering Committee are the Liberian Loan and the Anti-Lynching Bill. They have given

Louisville News, Ky.

SPECIAL SESSION NOV. 20, ON DYER AND SHIPPING BILLS.

White House Press Announcement So States. Rep. Tinkham and Senator Lodge Wrote President in Support of League Petition.

League Urges Race to Continue Signatures so as to Get President to Name Dyer Bill in Call.

Washington, Oct. 12.—Congress is to be convened in extraordinary session on November 20. President Harding will issue the call immediately after election. He means to drive the ship subsidy bill through an dwhile the House is wrestling with that the Senate will be expected to put the anti-lynching bill over. 10/21/22

The calling up of the latter measure comes as a complete and not particularly pleasant surprise to the average legislator, who is as skittish about this as about the ship subsidy but for the sake of the Negro vote in Ohio and other Northern States certain pledges were made and it is the intention to redeem these as soon as possible."

This welcome White House statement comes while the National Equal Rights League is in the third week of effort in petitioning President Harding to call a special session and to name the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in the call. The League operating from its head quarters in Boston, first telegraphed a request to the President direct. The President's secretary wrote back to Rev. M. A. N. Shaw, the president, Oct. 1, that a special session was not likely but in case of one the matter would be put before the Presdent. Meantime Representative Tinkham, of Boston had written the President at the League's request, on October 3, the League had an audience with Senator Lodge in Boston, as a result of which he wrote President Harding urgently that night. Then came the press report printed as above in several papers including the Boston Globe.

The League wired Senator Lodge to press the President to name the Dyer bill in the call. It urges the race to keep on signing its petition, also to ask Senators and Congressmen ot write to the President and to ask their Senators to press the bill through before the regular session.

definite promises that these two measures wil lbe taken up and finally disposed of at the opening of the next session and before any other legislation is considered.

This is the first fundamental issue of national import to the colored people of the United States that has been put squarely before the Republican Party since the Civil Rights Bill. We have the pledge to enact this legislation in the Republican platform. We have it recommended by the President and we have the promise of its enactment by the leaders of the majority in Congress. **We must hold the Party and hold the President and hold the Republican majority in the Senate strictly to these promises, and if the enactment of anti-lynching legislation is not fulfilled before the passing of this Congress on March 3, 1923, we should consider all of these promises as broken.**

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is not dead. Indeed, it is very much alive.

Women's Anti-Lynching Drive Arouses Interest at Buffalo

New York Age

(Special to The New York Age).

Buffalo, N. Y.—With every colored minister in the City of Buffalo present with the exception of two, one of whom was sick, at 7 o'clock, a. m., Sunday morning, the first gun was fired in the Anti-Lynching Crusade at Buffalo, Mrs. Helen Curtis, state director, being present.

10-7-22

As early as 6.30 people commenced to wind their way to church, and by 7 o'clock the church was filled. Singers fro mall of the choirs of the city occupied seats in the choir loft, and under the direction of Leonard Sayres, choir master, sang the opening hymn, "O God our help in ages past, our hope in years to come." Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, national director, read the 90th Psalm, which was followed with prayer by Rev. Stancil of the church. The following ministers also prayed: Rev. Echols of Shilo Baptist Church, Rev. Durham of St. Luke's Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, Dr. W. Spencer Carpenter of Bethel A. M. E. Church, Rev. Hollis, M. E. Church; Rev. Jesse Nash, Michigan Avenue Baptist Church.

Mrs. Talbert introduced Mrs. Curtis, who told of the beginning of the crusade and for what it stands. She urged the Buffalo women to register one hundred per cent. in this crusade and stressed the fact that all over the United States similar sunrise prayer meetings were being held. Many women offered their help as key women at the close of her address, which was warmly and enthusiastically received by the vast audience.

Mrs. Carter, missionary of the Baptist Association, also spoke and endorsed the movement. She is a Brooklyn key woman.

Dr. W. Spencer Carpenter preached a sermon deploring the fact that the United States government seems unable to quell the vicious mobs and the United States Senate had gone to sleep without putting the bill upon the calendar. He told the audience that the women, who had never failed the men, would put the job over. "If you want anything done well, link up with the praying, thinking womanhood of the land and the hardest task will be done right."

Other ministers gave short talks, and the Rev. Pendleton of the C. M. E. Church, closed that part of the service by asking every man, woman and child in the house to drop to their knees and pray with him and to drop to their knees every day until God has wiped this barbaric stain from this country which we as Americans love.

The massed choir then sang the National Negro Anthem, which closed one of the largest and most successful sunrise prayer meetings that has ever been held in the city of Buffalo, N. Y.

In the afternoon, at the Christian Culture Congress, the program was under the direction of Miss Amelia Anderson, president of the Buffalo branch of the N. A. A. C. P. By special request, Mrs. Curtis was invited to speak of her war work. She held the audience spellbound and when she had finished, many wanted her to go on. The pastor of the church, Rev. Jesse Nash, said that the address given by Mrs. Curtis was one of the most wonderful and soul inspiring that he had ever heard.

At night Mrs. Curtis spoke at Bethel A. M. E. Church at the request of Dr. Carpenter, pastor, and dwelt upon her work in Africa. The pastor invited her to return to Buffalo to open a forum, which he intends to start in mid-Winter. He has announced that other prominent women will be brought to Buffalo to address the forum, including Miss Eva D. Bowles of the Y. M. C. A. National Board, and Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, president for life of the Douglass Home Memorial Association.

Mrs. Curtis will leave Buffalo Monday for Rochester, returning at midnight and will speak to a large group of prominent white women in Lockport, N. Y., Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday she will address a large group of white women at the Delaware Avenue Baptist Church, Buffalo. Tuesday night she is to speak before a white women's organization and Wednesday night she will be presented to the New York State Baptist Convention.

Mrs. Curtis will leave Thursday for Utica, having been invited to return to the western part of the state as she has not covered Niagara Falls, Jamestown, Olean, and other points in western New York.

Her coming at this time has proved a great blessing and will be the means of making western New York stand high in the crusade.

DYER BILL SLATED TO COME UP AT THE SPECIAL SESSION

Senator Shortridge Moved For Consideration Of The Measure. Only Twenty-Seven Senators Answered The Roll Call.

Norfolk Journal & Guide 9/30/22

SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS LIKELY

(MORRIS BROWN)
(Washington Correspondent)

Washington, D. C., Sept.—The Dyer anti-lynching bill goes over to the next session of Congress, which, it is predicted, will be a special session called by the President about November 15. Final efforts to secure its enactment before adjournment failed.

FORCES COMBINED

Not withstanding adverse criticism by The Crisis of the efforts of Henry Lincoln Johnson the Georgia member of the Republican National Committee, and Perry W. Howard, special assistant to the Attorney General, in trying to have the bill so framed when it was under consideration by the House judiciary Committee that it would be within the constitutional limitations, James Weldon Johnson, field secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, called these men to aid in having the measure taken up before adjournment.

As a result of their combined efforts, Senator Shortridge, Republican, of California, who has the bill in charge, moved on last Thursday that the Senate proceed to the consideration of the measure. Although there are sixty Republican Senators, when the point of no quorum was made, there were only twenty-seven Senators in all answering the roll call, six of whom were Democrats. Conspicious among the absentees were Senators Henry Cabot Lodge, of Massachusetts; Joseph S. Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, and T. Coleman DuPont, of Delaware, all of whom are pledged to the support of the bill.

PROTESTS AGAINST ADJOURNMENT

Just prior to the hour of adjournment on last Friday, Senator Sutherland, Republican, of West Virginia, protested against any adjournment of the Senate until action was had on the Dyer anti-lynching bill. He stated that he was personally interested "in the outcome of the pending elections, being a candidate for re-election before the people of my State, and regard it as important that I should go to West Virginia for the purpose of carrying on a campaign. I believe, however, that it is of more importance to the Nation that this bill should be enacted into law than that I should have the opportunity to present my case to the electorate of West Virginia, or that others of this body similarly situated should do so." Of course, his protest went unheeded.

It is understood that immediately upon the reconvening of Congress, the administration Liberian loan bill will be temporarily laid aside and the Dyer anti-lynching bill will have the right of way in the Senate.

Georgia's Lynching Epidemic

Atlanta Constitution 10/1/22

(From The Springfield Republican.)

The ninth lynching in 60 days, which took place in Georgia Thursday, should stimulate constructive thought by the congressmen from that state who voted solidly against the Dyer anti-lynching bill when it came up in the house at the last session. Lynching is a "local issue," in the opinion of these men. There should be time during the recess of congress to exercise practical leadership in dealing with the issue.

The sheriff from whom the latest victim was taken by a mob of 50, some of them masked, explains that he and his deputies, though aware of reports that a lynching was contemplated, were taken by surprise, and he is quoted as saying, "There was 'nothing we could do but surrender the negro or get killed ourselves.'" The negro, it appears, was charged with an attack upon a young woman, who, however, escaped without injury. He was being held for trial and his attorneys are reported to have planned to attempt to establish an alibi. There seems to be no reason for supposing that the law established by the people of the state of Georgia would not have taken its course.

The sheriff says he recognized some of the members of the mob and will present their names to the grand jury. If he and his men were in as much danger as he seems to have believed, this course would be rather courageous. If the names are presented, if the grand jury finds a true bill, if the indicted men are convicted and if they are given such sentences as justice demands the best that could be done will have been done. There are a good many "ifs" in the condition. They are what give weight to the national demand represented by the Dyer bill.

CONGRESSMAN TINKHAM GIVES ENDORSATION TO DYER BILL.

Richmond, Va,

Senator Lodge Also To Be Seen On Special Session Issue.

Richmond Planet 10/14/22

Boston, Mass., Sept. 30.—Congressman George Holden Tinkham, of Boston the champion of the 14th Amendment and reduction of Southern Representation has been asked by the National Equal Rights League to write to President Harding in support of the Leagues' petition to have the special session of Congress called for November 15th with the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill named for consideration and has consented to do so. He has been renominated for Congress.

The League is now seeking an audience with Senator Lodge to ask the senior Senator to also endorse the petition.

Wednesday night at the Mass meeting of the local branch the petition was endorsed enthusiastically by the large audience and many signatures secured. Volunteers took petitions to gather more signatures in the Churches and club houses tomorrow.

The League makes it clear that this is the only way in which to keep all the progress made on the bill from being entirely lost as at the regular session an entirely new start will have to be made. It urges every newspaper to push it every church and secular organization to gather signatures and send them to the Secretary, W. M. Trotter at 34 Cornhill, Boston.

Lynchings — 1922
Legislation Relating to 1077

THEY ARE SELDOM PUNISHED FOR SINS OF OMISSION

BINGHAMTON N. Y. PRESS
SEPTEMBER 27, 1922

If Congressmen were given to searching their own hearts, instead of to searching for votes, they might truthfully say: "We have left undone those things we ought to have done."

Specifically, they have left undone, among other things they ought to have done, the passage of an anti-lynching bill, the passing of a corrupt practices resolution, and the adoption of a proposal for amending the Constitution to provide for the elimination of child labor.

Lynching can be stopped as soon as the taxpayers of a county can be compelled to pay heavily for the privilege. Congressmen and Senators can be compelled to limit their campaign expenses, regardless of the Supreme Court decision in the Newberry case, whenever Congress is willing to throw out a member who spends more money for his seat than the rule of Congress specifies.

As for child labor, though it is a fine thing for children to work, it is not a fine thing for employers to fatten their profits by stunting the minds and the bodies of children who ought to be in school. And if labor has any dignity and respect in this imperfect democracy, it is entitled to protection from competition at the hands of undeveloped childhood.

DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL WAS REPORTED TO SENATE AT URGENT REQUEST OF LODGE

St. Louis Post-Dispatch 9/21/22

Measure Taken From Cold Storage to Enable Senator to Make "Appropriate Campaign Gestures" in Race for Renomination.

St. Louis Pos.

By CHARLES G. ROSS.
Chief Washington Correspondent of the Post-Dispatch.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21.—Just why the Dyer anti-lynching bill was reported to the Senate from the Judiciary Committee, to which it was referred after passage by the House was disclosed today by a Senator familiar with the circumstances. The recital furnishes an illuminating commentary on senatorial methods.

The anti-lynching bill got through the House on Jan. 26. Political expediency, as pointed out at the time, accounted for many of the votes in its favor. The House was glad to shunt the measure to the other end of the Capitol.

The buck having been successfully passed to the Senate, the bill was taken in charge by the Judiciary Committee. The eminent constitutional lawyers who make up that body named a subcommittee of five members to study the bill and report on it. This subcommittee consisted of Senators Borah of Idaho, chairman; Overman of North Carolina, Shields of Tennessee, Dillingham of Vermont and Sterling of South Dakota.

How Subcommittee Stood.

Borah was genuinely convinced that the bill was unconstitutional; Overman and Shields, the Democratic members, were opposed to it on similar grounds; Dillingham, having few colored voters in his State, had no enthusiasm for it. Sterling, while having some doubts as to constitutionality, took the view that the question was debatable enough to justify the Senate in passing it and sending it along to the Supreme Court for a decision.

The bill was due to be chloroformed right there, as many who voted for it in the House believed it would be, when politics intervened. Politics appeared in the person of the distinguished scholar and statesman from Massachusetts. This "Sage of Nahant," Senator Lodge, had a primary coming on in Massachusetts. Being a candidate in that primary, he was specially interested in it. Massachusetts had a considerable number of negro voters. They, with other negroes, individually and through organizations, were demanding that Lodge get action on the bill.

Lodge Becomes Insistent.

Lodge went to the subcommittee and urged that it be reported out. He was told that the subcommittee was awaiting briefs, on both sides to which it had promised to give consideration before announcing a decision. Lodge, however, with the primary looming nearer and nearer, continued to be insistent, though the subcommittee told him that its report would have to be unfavorable. In response to his urgings, the subcommittee finally reported the bill to the full committee with the recommendation that it be disproved because of its unconstitutionality.

The full committee was more pliant. With its tongue in its cheek, it reported the bill favorably, though every man of the committee of 16 (10 Republicans and six Democrats), with two exceptions, believed it to be violative of the Constitution. The exceptions were Sterling and Shortridge of California. Shortridge, like Sterling, had some doubts about it, but agreed with the South Dakotan that the Senate should give the Supreme Court the chance to decide. Four of the other Republican members who voted to report the measure to the Senate reserved the right to vote against it on the floor.

Shortridge was assigned to write the report. He reduced mental effort to a minimum by picking up and reprinting Dyer's House report on the bill and adding only a few words of his own. He said that the committee, "after earnest thought," had reached the conclusion that "as amended" by the committee the bill was constitutional and ought to pass.

Assured It Wouldn't Pass.

It has since developed that the committee reported the bill only after assurances had been given that its passage at this session of Congress was impossible.

Thus the committee, by going through the mummery of transferring the bill from one cold storage house to another, enabled Senator Lodge and other candidates to make their appropriate campaign gestures. As the bill can't come up again till after the November elections, which it was designed to influence, it looks as if it will stay dead for a long time.

BOLTON SMITH, PROMINENT WHITE LEADER, ENDORSES DYER BILL; SAYS SOUTH IS NOT ATTACKED

1077

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, New York, has made public a statement from Bolton Smith, of Memphis, Tenn., president in 1919 of the local Rotary Club, and a trustee of the University of Tennessee, endorsing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which is to come to a vote in the senate during the next session of congress. Houston Informer

The statement of Mr. Smith was said to be especially significant by James Weldon Johnson, secretary of the Advancement Association, in that Mr. Smith declared the bill contained no special attack upon the South. Houston Post 9-28-22

Mr. Smith's statement in full is as follows:

September 27, 1922.

"I am in favor of the Dyer bill giving federal courts jurisdiction in connection with the crime of lynching under certain cases, because:

"1. I believe that local sentiment in many places is too strong to permit local authorities to enforce the law against mobs.

"2. A trial before a jury in a United States court is not a trial before an alien tribunal. But the jury is selected from the people of the entire state or district, and one is assured of a more impartial jury—one not terrorized by that local sentiment which usually is so blatant after any mob action. Few officers have the courage to oppose strong local sentiment.

"3. There is no special attack on the South in such a measure. It is required by the progress of the country, North as well as South. As common Negro labor has moved into the North, Negroes have been lynched by white mobs there too.

"That some Southern men who sincerely oppose lynching should not favor the Dyer bill is due to a misapprehension of its effect and purpose. There is no part of the United States in which those favoring the due process of law for the punishment of crime should not be in favor of the punishment of lynchers by federal courts, whenever local officials fail to do their duty.

"4. The lynching of Negroes by white mobs is bad enough, but there is some danger that we will, before long, be faced with an even more dangerous character of lynching, namely, the lynching of those of one religious faith by those of another faith. This would divide America into hostile camps and produce civil war, and we need a law that will enable the federal courts to repress these cases with the utmost severity.

"5. The crime of lynching is, next to the assassination of a prominent officer of the nation, one of the greatest which can be committed. This is especially so where it is performed by one class or race and suffered by another, which other race or class regards the lynching as an attack against every one of its members. A lynching in Georgia tends to disturb labor conditions not only in the adjoining states, but in the entire South, and is not without its effect in embittering race relations in the North. It can not be regarded as merely against the peace and dignity of the state within whose limits it is committed. Its evil effect spreads far beyond those limits. It is a crime against the nation in a very real sense and therefore should be triable by federal courts.

"6. I do not assume that this law will immediately stop lynching; but it will be one step in that direction. Above all, it would impress the officials of every state with the determination of the people at large to stop this crime. The effect of a few trials in the federal courts will be highly beneficial.

(Signed) "BOLTON SMITH."

The Lynching Bill.

10/14/22

Our Washington correspondent informs us that immediately after the November elections President Harding will issue a call for an extra session of Congress in order to pass the ship subsidy and anti-lynching bills.

Commercial Appeal

The president, we are told, is angling after the negro vote in Ohio and other northern states. If this be true, the president is playing his hand very poorly.

Memphis, Tenn.

The negro vote north of the Ohio River is negligible, compared with the white vote. There isn't an intelligent Republican in the United States that doesn't know that the white people of the south are just as bitterly opposed to lynchings as are the white people of other sections of the country.

When the number of negroes residing in the south is taken into consideration, acts of violence against members of that race are fewer than in any other section where negroes reside. We could cite numerous outbreaks against the blacks that have occurred in the north within recent years to prove this statement.

Lynchings in the south decrease as the years go by. Not only do officers of the several states and communities exert every effort to prevent summary executions, but sentiment of the people is almost solidly cemented against such. Only on rare occasions of late have the lawless elements been so bold as to override the law. And these lawless elements are weaker in the south than in the east and north.

The anti-lynch law as drafted would penalize the county in which a lynching occurs by payment of a fixed fine, the money to be paid to relatives of the victim.

Such a proposition is so manifestly unconstitutional as scarcely to need discussion. The fine would, of course, be paid by the law-abiding citizens of the county. Thus would unoffending citizens be penalized for a crime with which they had no connection whatever—innocent men fined for an act they opposed and not even given a trial.

The Republican party is as well acquainted with these facts as are southern Democrats, and know that the anti-lynch bill as drawn would never pass the courts.

The Republican party must certainly be in a bad way when it resorts to such political expedients as inciting sectional hatreds in an attempt to perpetuate itself in office.

SENATE HASN'T AND WON'T PASS ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Jos. C. Manning, White, Says Republicans Are Manipulating Bill Merely To Get Votes

COLORED VOTERS WARNED

Republicans Characterized As Fakers and Flim-Flammers

AFRO-AMERICAN:

For twenty-five years, both South and North, I have done what I could to focus consideration of the reaction to the cause of the repressed South. As editor and political leader in Alabama, on the platform and in the Alabama legislature I have spoken out as strongly against disfranchisement, peonage and lynchings, as I have through press and on the platform in the North.

Birmingham Ala. 10-20-22

During all this time I have supported the Republican party in the hope of its fullfillment of pledges in the behalf of human justice. It has been a hope badly placed.

The matter of reduction of Southern representation, often promised, is one example of failure of performance.

There is the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which is another flim-flam by political leaders of the Republican party. There has never been, there is not now any serious purpose to pass the Dyer Bill.

It passed the House with no serious intention to get it any further. After slumbering so long in the Senate Committee, it was reported out to help Lodge, Frelinghuysen and other Senators who had primary election contests on. It was not discussed in the Senate until the day before adjournment of Congress, and then only to get a speech in the Record so that the Republican leaders could hold the colored vote.

They all, every administration leader in the Senate, say they favor the Dyer Bill. They have said this for months. It has been favored to death. Unanimously favored to death. Unanimously favored and unanimously shelved, all along.

The short session of Congress will be given to supply bills, while the President will also press his Ship Subsidy program. There is again a rising necessity for legislation as to the prohibition question with relation to ocean-going vessels. Certainly Republican leaders will not press the Dyer Bill in the face of those things considered "more important." Harding will not press it, for he wants the social and political atmosphere in Washington kept in smoothness as he presses his "more important" legislation.

Representation that any serious effort will be made to pass the Dyer Bill is false representation. It is political faking and Republican flim-flam to get votes of colored people.

"Lodge favors it. He is one of our friends," so say some colored people. Lodge gets what he goes after in Republican politics, but he failed to function to pass the Dyer Bill.

"Frelinghuysen favors it. He is one of our friends." He had pull enough to entertain Harding in Florida, and in New Jersey, while he gets what he wants done. He did not function to pass the Dyer Bill. He favors it just as they all favor it. They favor it to death.

Colored people are branded and labeled as a Republican party asset. They will support the Republican party, whatever duplicity is engaged in by Republican leaders as to them. This is the judgment of every Republican leader the country over. Pressure, therefore, on the part of colored people is not taken seriously.

Right now, all over theh country, colored editors and colored politicians are "whooping up" this or that Senator, who is a candidate for re-election, because "he is one of our friends and favors the Dyer Bill."

Until colored people realize this error and repudiate this Republican faking, there is not going to be much combined pressure for them to have upon any Republican administration. Republican leaders would do much to get the colored vote back into line, but they will do absolutely nothing to hold a vote already branded, sealed and delivered.

I repudiate the Harding administration and I repudiate every one of these candidates who have "favored" the Dyer Bill since Harding's administration. I repudiate them as "favoring", **but as not performing.** I repudiate them because they do not seriously intend to perform. I am not longer going to uphold a bunch of faking and flim-flamming Republicans. I propose to hold their feet to the fire.

JOSEPH C. MANNING.
Herald Square Hotel,
New York, Oct. 14, 1922.

UTICA N Y DISPATCH
SEPTEMBER 15, 1922

Postponed.

The anti-lynching bill has been dropped for the present session of Congress because the Democrats have threatened to continue and delay discussion and prevent the adjournment which the Republicans hope to secure in time to give them an opportunity to do some home work before election.

There is belief that it will be favored with some spirit after the reassembling of Congress in December, although from the somewhat apathetic manner in which the bill has been handled during the present session there is suspicion that there is no great anxiety for its passage.

Meantime, this revolting crime is not being dealt with in anything like the spirit that might be supposed to prevail. There are abundant laws for the punishment of those who are guilty of the outrage which usually incites mobs to lynchings.

Nor have courts ever failed to administer those laws with promptness and vigor.

N Y EVE WORLD
NOVEMBER 1, 1922

A WOMEN'S CRUSADE AGAINST LYNCHING.

THE project of enrolling 1,000,000 American women in an organization to be known as "the Anti-Lynching Crusaders" has been started under the auspices of Negro women representing most of the States of the Union.

But it is not designed to be a merely racial movement against what figures as a racial crime, and the appeal of its organizers for the co-operation of white women throughout the country may be expected to receive a favorable response. The question of suppressing lynching is not a question of color but of good citizenship. It transcends social considerations.

Certainly no more promising movement has ever been instituted for combating mob murder. A national organization of women acting in concert to condemn lynching in principle and to investigate cases where it is perpetrated, to expose examples of official laxity responsible for lynching and to bring moral pressure to bear on Sheriffs and Governors to uphold the law, can accomplish great good.

It is not too much to say that a million women crusaders against lynching can cope more effectively with the barbarity than any Federal legislation to that end can possibly do.

Respect for womanhood is the pretended motive of lynch law, and it rests with women to repudiate the false code of honor which condones the commission of the worst of crimes in their name.

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation Relating to 1078

Women and Lynching

During the 33 years since 1889 83 women have been lynched in the United States. Of these, 17 were of Caucasian blood. Mississippi heads the list, with 15 instances. Texas comes next, with 10, and Alabama third, with nine. Many of these disgraceful episodes have been based on the charge of murder, but in a surprising number no reason has been discoverable. In the same period of time the total number of victims of lynch law was 3,436, of whom white men and women numbered 718.

An attempt is being made to enroll 1,000,000 women among the "anti-lynching crusaders," who will seek to create public sentiment throughout the country against this most abhorrent of all the examples of mob violence. The organization will also support the Dyer anti-lynching bill in congress. This proposal for giving the federal courts jurisdiction in cases where it seems certain that local public sentiment will make a fair trial of lynching cases impossible was before congress in the session just ended and failed to pass the senate because of lively opposition by Senator Pat Harrison and other Southerners.

REPUBLICANS DROP THE LYNCHING BILL

Commercial Appeal

Democrats Threatened to Filibuster to End.

9-14-22

WASHINGTON, Sept. 13.—Republican leaders in the Senate have practically agreed not to bring up the Dyer anti-lynching bill at this session of Congress because of the threat of southern Democrats to conduct a prolonged filibuster against it. While the Dyer bill was on the programme agreed upon a short time ago by the Republican steering committee of the Senate, for action at this session, its elimination has been found necessary by a consuming desire of the Republican leaders to adjourn Congress early so as to get out in the fall campaign. So determined are the Democratic senators in their opposition that they have threatened to prevent any adjournment if the Dyer bill is pressed.

Republican leaders have tentatively agreed to an adjournment on Sept. 23. They figure that all measures on the calendar except the anti-lynching bill can be disposed of by that date.

The anti-lynching bill is one of the most irritating pieces of legislation which has ever been before Congress. It was introduced in the House in keeping with a clause in the Republican platform. It passed the House after a spirited debate and has been kicked about the Senate for some time. Democratic senators charge it is merely a bid for the colored votes of the country. It was reported to the Senate on July 28 by Senator Shortridge, California, acting chairman of the judiciary committee.

HARDING URGED TO PUSH DYER ANTI-LYNCH BILL

The after American 10/13/22

Senator Lodge Asks President to Include Measure In Extra Session Program

New York

Boston, Mass., Oct. 11.—At noon yesterday Senator Lodge received a delegation of the National Equal Rights League at the Republican State committee headquarters in the Kimball Building.

Those in the delegation were the Rev. M. A. N. Shaw, national president; William Monroe Trotter, national secretary; Mrs. Hester Jeffreys, secretary; Albert G. Wolf, Esq., and A. Pyburn of the Boston branch.

The League asked the Senator for his support of the petition to President Harding to call a special session of Congress next month with the Dyer Bill on the program for action. They mentioned that Representative Tinkham had already written the President, and also showed him the letter to Rev. M. Shaw from the White House, in which Secretary Christian said the matter would be brought before the President in connection with the arrangements for any contemplated special session.

Senator Lodge reminded Secretary Trotter that at his instance the Senator had taken the bill out of the Senate judiciary sub-committee and declared he had zealously worked for enactment of the Dyer Bill. He agreed to write to the President urging a special session at which the Senator stated the Liberian Loan and the Dyer Anti-Lynching bills would be first on the calendar. Whenever Congress convenes these bills will be first on the calendar.

The delegation secured his consent to work for the consideration of the Dyer Bill ahead of the Liberian Loan Bill.

Senator Lodge was shown petitions from several States outside of Massachusetts.

RACIAL COMMISSION MAKING STRONG FIGHT

Georgia Organization Is Waging Vigorous Campaign Against Mob Law and for Passage of An Effective Anti-Lynching Law.

New York Tribune 10/4/22

Atlanta, Ga.—The Georgia Commission on Inter-Racial Cooperation, under the leadership of Dr. T. J. Wolfter, is waging a vigorous campaign against mob violence and injustice, and for the development of a public sentiment that will insure the protection of the life and property of every citizen, irrespective of color.

Governor Dorsey's astounding exhibit of lynchings and other injustices was published and widely circulated by the Commissoin and created a profound impression. The Commission has drafted and is working hard for the enactment of an effective anti-lynching law.

Meantime many cases of mob violence and injustice have been investigated by the Commission and legal aid has been extended in a number. Among the latter may be mentioned the notorious Williams "murder farm" case, which the Commission helped to prosecute and in which convictions were secured; the case of Tom Parks, whose farm was saved from fraudulent foreclosure; the release of a Negro boy who was held in service without pay and brutally treated; the case of Asbury McClusky, now pending, in which a mob attacked McClusky's home, wounded him, and tried to drive him from the community. The Commission has identified members of this mob and filed a $50,000 damage suit against them.

It is notable that in two recent lynchings indictments have been returned, and in one of them convictions have been secured. Some of the best legal talent in Georgia is giving every possible aid to the Commission.

New York Times 10/13/22

THE LYNCHING DISGRACE.

During the debate on the Anti-Lynching bill in the House of Representatives more than one Southern member declared that the States would grapple resolutely with the evil if only let alone. It was, indeed, hoped that the discussion itself might bring about a new sensitiveness on the subject and induce Governors and Sheriffs to be more outspoken and vigorous in defending men and women threatened by the mob. Such an effect may have been wrought in certain States. It is a hopeful sign that, in the new organization of a million women to stop lynching in the United States, directors from every Southern State are taking part. Yet atrocious instances of lynching are reported from month to month. That they are a shame to this country, and that they constitute a taunt difficult for Americans to meet when they protest against Turkish atrocities or outrages in Russia, no one denies. Yet the efforts to put an end to the disgrace seem to have accomplished little.

The Anti-Lynching bill passed by the House may not have been a measure wholly wise or constitutional. It was, in fact, largely modified by the Senate committee before being reported. Even then no headway could be made, because of the suspicion of partisan motives on both sides. The Republicans were charged with insincerely advocating the bill merely in order to win the colored vote in the Congresssional elections. On the other hand, the Democrats in the Senate filibustered against the bill and talked it out with an unconcealed party intent. Next December the matter will normally come up as unfinished business. It is possible that then it may be considered as one not of party interest but of national concern. By a patriotic agreement some act may be passed to put the stamp of Federal disapproval upon a form of lawlessness which brings the whole nation into disrepute.

Anti-Lynching Bill Threatens Storm

Atlanta Georgian 11-22-22

1078

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 24.—A partisan storm threatened to break in the Senate Friday afternoon over the Dyer anti-lynching bill when Southern Democratic senators, led by Harrison, of Mississippi, declared they would tie the Republican legislative program in knots if certain Republican senators persisted in their efforts to make the measure the "unfinished business" after the pending Liberian loan bill is disposed of.

SENATE FIGHT IMPENDS.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn 11-28-22

Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill Next Measure On Programme.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 27.—After disposing of the Liberian loan resolution the Senate late today proceeded with the next measure on its legislative programme—the Dyer anti-Lynching bill—but got no further than a motion to take it up. The fight over the Dyer bill, which was passed by the House last session, is expected to occupy the remainder of the special session and continue into the regular session beginning next Monday.

THEY'LL FIND A REMEDY WHEN THEY HAVE TO PAY

BINGHAMTON N. Y. PRESS
OCTOBER 6, 1922

Georgia's ninth lynching in sixty days took place in Washington county. If a law had been in force under which $80,000 had been collected from the taxpayers of the State for the eight previous lynchings, the substantial citizens of Washington county would have found a way to prevent a lynching for which they would have been called upon to pay $10,000.

That forced payment is the one sure remedy for lynching which is provided in the anti-lynching bill that the last session of Congress allowed to die on its hands.

The heavy taxpayers in the lynching districts may not be members of the mobs that commit these murders, but it is their indifference that makes such work possible. When they are made to pay heavily for tolerating this popular outdoor pastime they will quickly put a stop to it.

SENATOR HARRISON REPLIES TO WESLEYAN GIRL'S CRITICISM OF FILIBUSTER AGAINST DYER BILL

Wants Names of Mississippians She Professes to Represent in Opposition.

Anti-Lynching Measure Is Called Menace to White Civilization in South.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—President Harding personally favors the enactment of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, it was declared at the White House today, although it was made clear that the executive would make no comment concerning the Democratic filibuster in the Senate.

The Executive, it was added, feels that lynching is a "very sore spot on our boast of civilization."

Replying to a telegram from Miss Fannie Belle Outler, in which she scored the stand of Senator Pat Harrison, W. J. Harris and Walter F. George on the Dyer anti-lynching bill, Senator Harrison in a message addressed from Washington yesterday, said that "such a protest coming from any part of the white women of the South is surprising to those of us who are here battling in what we conceive to be the greatest crisis in the

history of our section since the infamous Lodge force bill was killed."

He made the request that Miss Outler, who sent the message as "chairman of the 15,000 members of the Student Young Women's Christian Associations in ten Southern cities," furnish him the names of the Mississippi women whose views she expressed.

Miss Outler, a student at Wesleyan, received the telegram from Senator Harrison during the afternoon. Senator Harrison's message read:

> Your telegram purporting to voice a protest in the name of 1,500 members of the Students' Young Women's Christian Associations in the Southern States against my attitude on the Dyer anti-lynching bill just received. Will greatly appreciate it if you will furnish me names of members in Mississippi, if any, whose views you are authorized to express. Such a protest coming from any part of the white women of the South is surprising to those of us who are here battling in what we conceive to be the greatest crisis in the history of our section since the infamous Lodge force bill was killed. If this unconstitutional and unjustifiable legislative monstrosity, which is aimed at the South, should become law, constitutional government would be at an end and our white civilization be threatened.

Dispatches from Washington said that Senator Harris, of Georgia, is preparing a reply, which he will make public today.

Miss Outler Revises Views.

Miss Outler last night sent the following telegram to Senator Pat Harrison, Senator George and Senator Harris:

> Please disregard entirely wording of my telegram to you of November 20 in regard to filibuster on Dyer anti-lynching bill. Since sending you the telegram my attention has been called to the fact that the idea I and the young women I represent intended to convey was not made clear. The telegram as worded badly distorted our attitude on the question. It was not our idea to attack you or other Southern Senators for fighting for the honor of the South. The one and only purpose of the young women I represent is that legislation shall be enacted or enforced to make impossible further lynchings, but not legislation that will trample on States' rights. The stand you and other Southern Senators have taken on this question is perfectly understood by me.

PHILA PA PUBLIC LEDGER
OCTOBER 24, 1922

MOVE TO END LYNCHING

The Anti-Lynching Crusaders m last night in the Allen A. M. Church, Seventeenth and Bainbrid streets, to open a campaign having its object the enlisting of 1,000,0 women in the effort to suppress lynch ing.

Among the speakers was the Rev. Wilton, pastor of the church.

LARGE CROWD HEARS DYER AND JOHNSON

Washington Tribune
11-25-22
Washington, D. C.

A capacity audience heard Congressman Dyer, of Missouri, and James Weldon Johnson, of New York who appeared under the auspices of the local branch of the N. A. A. C. P., at Lincoln Temple, Sunday afternoon in a financial drive for advertising propaganda in the interest of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which is now the unfinished business before the present Congress.

Mr. Dyer was elated over the results of the recent election. This was his seventh time to be elected as Representative from the 12th Missouri district. But he failed to explain why Mr. Moore the colored candidate for state Representative, running on the Republican ticket with him, was knifed by his "white friends."

Mr. Dyer said: "The colored people of this country have shown that they are really worth while and by cooperative effort can come into their own, for their own benefit." He also admitted that "since election the stock of the colored voter had gone up considerably."

Speeking of organization and education, he said: "You need a national organization to educate the colored people of this country for their own protection. You are not going to be satisfied with the enactment of this law. You will want other opportunities and protection." He enumerated instances of peonage, and practical slavery and said that the colored people needed enlightenment and the franchise.

Mr. Dyer stated: "You must do your part and discharge your duty. Prayer won't help much. God will only help those who help themselves. I am proud to see you aroused for you have been lying dormant so long. You must make the fight for your people who are denied their rights, and you must use your vote to benefit them."

Mr. Johnson followed Mr. Dyer in an effort to explain why the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People of which he is secretary needed money to put the Dyer Bill thru Congress. He said: "Some pig-headed editor wrote headquarters to ask why the Association needed money to have a bill passed in the United States Congress. If that editor," said Mr. Johnson, "was standing near a mule when he asked that simple question, the mule would have kicked his brains out for not having any more sense than that."

Mr. Johnson stated that it was necessary to create public sentiment in favor of the Dyer Bill. In order to do this many articles have been sent to various newspapers and the Association was planning for a page advertisement to run in several of the daily papers throughout the country He also stated that the Association had only spent $35,000 in the last ten years, in its propaganda against lynching.

Hon. Archibald H. Grimke, president of the local branch, presided. A collection of $132.27 was raised.

"EQUAL PROTECTION" PLANK FOR DEMOCRATS

Norfolk Journal
11-7-22

New York State Body Adopts Plank Opposing Lynching As Party Measure.

and Guide

Syracuse, N. Y., Sept.—Delivering a death blow to the political ambitions of William Randolph Hearst by denying him a place on the ticket and virtually reading him out of the party, the Democratic State Convention adjourned late Friday night, after adopting a party platform and nominating a ticket headed by Alfred E. Smith, of New York, for governor and Dr. Royal S. Copeland, of New York, for United States Senator. Charles F. Murphy, Tammany Hall chief, was the absolute boss of the convention.

DECLARES FOR EQUAL PROTECTION

The Democratic State Convention went on record as favoring equal protection for every citizen. This plank in the platform is as follows:

"Every citizen, regardless of race, color or creed, is entitled to the equal protection of the laws; mob violence can never be justified."

THE LAW AND THE MOB.

The current issue of the Wesleyan Christian Advocate contains a timely and aggressive appeal to the Christian sentiment of Georgia in behalf of even justice under the law, in which lynching is appropriately characterized as being nothing other than cold-blooded, premeditated murder. 9/26/22

Citing the recent lynching of a negro burglar in Barrow county, The Advocate makes the point that while the victim may have been "depraved enough to have committed murder to accomplish his purpose of burglary, **the mob did commit murder"** when it forcibly took him from the custody of the officers of the law and put him to death. The Atlanta Constitution

It furthermore calls attention to the significant fact that "this lynching was not for the one gross crime," and that "the records show that on an average more than two-thirds of the lynchings (that have taken place in Georgia within the last few years) were for crimes **other than the one gross cause."**

This spokesman of Methodism in Georgia makes the further point that "the white race has complete control of the machinery of the courts and the government;" that "only a small minority" of Georgia citizens "participate in or sympathize wtih lynching," and that the proposition of combating the mob spirit automatically resolves itself into a "proposition of the **majority** of Georgia's protecting the reputation of the state against the acts of **the few."**

And with unmistakable and commendable emphasis our Christian contemporary declares that "our pastors, mostly Baptists and Methodists in the country, must not put on the soft pedal when it comes to the crime of murder, though committed by a mob," and that "a church that is dependent for its existence on the lawless element had better go out of business!"

"Lynching," it says—

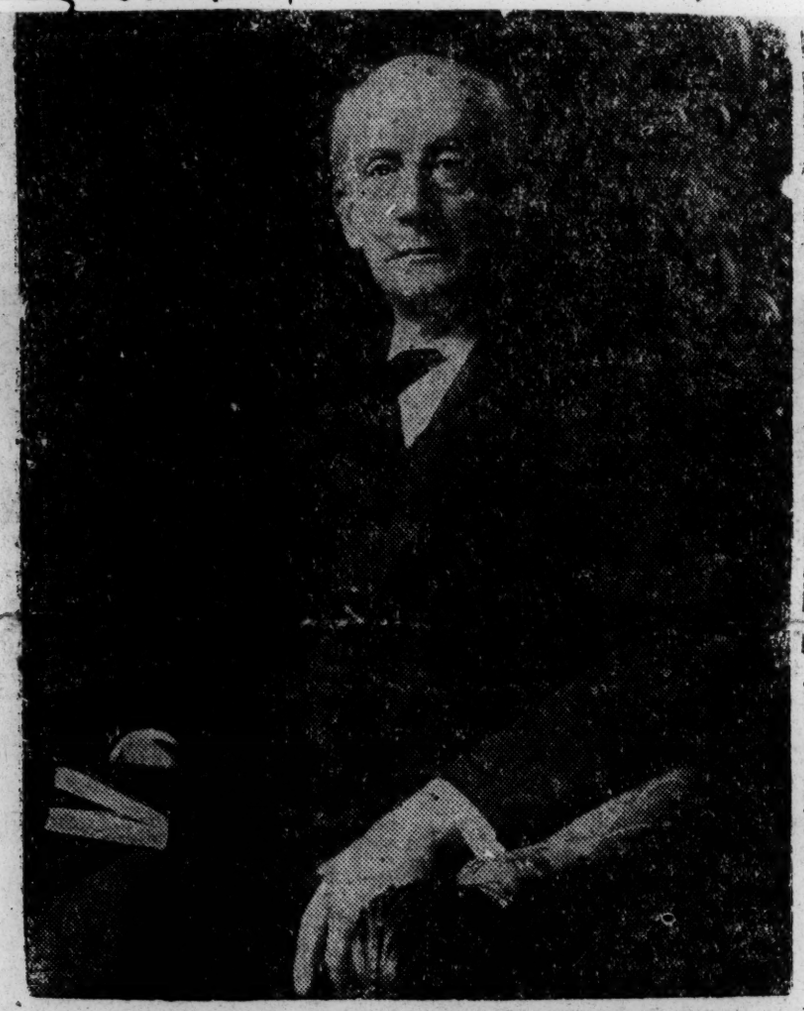
> "results in a widening disrespect for all laws, as is seen by the murder of the vast majority who have been lynched for other causes than the one alleged cause, some of them trivial causes; it is anarchy which strikes at the authority of government and commits the trial and execution of justice to men whose madness has dethroned reason."

All right-thinking, public-spirited and patriotic men and women, irrespective of religious affiliations or belief, will commend this expression of the truth; and the good people of Georgia—the first on the list of "lynching states"—may well read a warning in the current agitation in congress in behalf of a federal anti-lynching law.

Georgia can put an end to lynching and to mob violence if it will; but if it does not, intervention by the federal government to that purpose is inevitable!

Lynchings— 1922
Legislation.

1079



HON. MOORFIELD STOREY OF BOSTON

Who pledged the remainder or life to fighting lynching at Silver Loving Cup Meeting in Faneuil Hall arranged by late Senator Geraldine Trotter after appeal by Rev. W. D. McClane, meeting by Boston Literary Assoc.

M. STORY SCORES SO. SENATORS ON LYNCH

The Guardian

Proved South Believes in Lynching and Burning at Stake by Action on Dyer Bill.

Guardian, Boston, Mass

AFRAID EVEN OF ARGUMENT HEAD OF N. A. A. C. P. SAYS FILIBUSTER SHOWS COUNTRY AT MERCY OF TYRANNY OF A SMALL MINORITY IN U. S. SENATE WHO STOP BUSINESS OF COUNTRY TO PREVENT EVEN DISCUSSION OF A MEASURE

12-16-22

(Boston Herald, Dec. 15. 1922)

To the Editor of the Herald:

The anti-lynching bill has been defeated in the Senate by filibustering. What does this mean?

It means in the first place that the Southern states are so welded to mob law, so determined to burn at the stake with the most inhuman cruelty, and otherwise to kill their fellow-citizens rather than give then a fair trial and if found guilty, a proper punishment that they will not even permit a law against such practices to be considered. Never again can we believe them when they say that they do not approve of lynching.

Permit No Discussion

No matter what their professions, heir actions gives them the lie. If the proposed legislation was bad or unconstitutional they had ample opportunity to present the argument against it, but they did not dare to permit any discussion. There could be no more absolute admission that their case was hopelessly bad than was made when Senator Underwood, their leader, a man whom many of us have hitherto respected and admired, rose in the Senate and gave notice to his colleagues that until the proposed bill was abandoned no public business should be done.

A bill which had passed the House of Representatives by a large majority to which Democrats as well as Republicans added votes, upheld the judiciary committees of both Senate and House as well as by eminent lawyers and judges whose passage was urged by governors, prominent churchmen of all denominations, the mayors of great cities, North and South, and by the state conventions of fifteen states, is laid aside because the men who represent the criminals dare not allow the acts of their constituents even to be discussed. The Southern leaders say, "We won't stop lynching and you shan't," and they are not afraid to stand before the world as maintaining the unspeakable barbrism of burning men nd women alive, which today is permitted nowhere else expect in the United States.

Wat It Mens On Liberty

What else does it mean- By the most trivial motions and discussions intended only to consume time, a few senators stop the business of the whole country. No money can be appropriated, no laws, however necessary, can be passed, no officers of the government can be confirmed, no treaties can be considered. By abusing their privileges as senators they exercize a veto more absolute than the President can exercise under the constitution. Used against the lynching bill today, the practice may be used t any time by two or three men to assert the will of that insignificant minority against the interests of the country represented by every other senator. No man or body of men has the right thus to betray the trust reposed in him by his election to the Senate. The very foundation of popular government, the right of the majority to rule, is shattered and the men who have done this thing and set this pernicious example should be overwhelmed by popular wrath, for if such abuses are condoned, we all become subject to the tyranny of an suscrupulous minority, determined to rule or ruin.

The spirit which has inspired such methods is the same that led the Southern states to secede when the election of Lincoln threatened their then form of slavery and the consequences may be more disastrous.

MOORFIELD STOREY.

Boston, December 6.

ANTI-LYNCH BILL PUT OFF UNTIL MARCH 4, NEXT

Republican Leaders Agree That They Cannot Get It To A Vote In The Senate Before Then

DEMOCRATS FILIBUSTER

American

Extra Session Ended With Little Work Done; Cohen Not Confirmed

12/8/22

Washington, D. C., Dec. 6.—(Afro's Own Bureau) Republican leaders withdrew the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill from consideration in the Senate this week until after March 4th.

This action was taken on Monday following a filibuster of Southern Democrats which held up all business in the Senate and kept the Bill from coming to a vote. Very little business was transacted by the Senate in the more than two weeks of its extra session. Over 900 appointments of President Harding's went by the board including Pierce Butler, white of Minnesota to be a Supreme Court judge and Walter F. Cohen to be Collector of the Port at New Orleans. They will be renominated by President Harding.

DEBATE ON BILL BITTER

Debate on the Dyer Bill was bitter during the filibuster. Senator Overman (Dem. N. C.) declared that the Republicans introduced the measure to corral the Negro vote. He added that "The Negro voter is just as apt to vote the Republican ticket as rain is to run off a duck's back. There is no demand by the Negroes of the South for this measure. They are contented and happy and want to be let alone. This bill will merely put notions in the heads of some poor devils down there that the Federal Government guarantees them license to commit awful crimes."

SENATOR NEW TAKES FLOOR

Senator New, (Rep. Ind.) answered that "There is no country in the world that is regarded even as halfway civilized in which outrages occur as are reported with almost weekly regularity from sections of the U. S. They predominate in the South. Wherever they are, they should be stopped, if not by the States, then by the Federal Government."

Senator Cummins (Rep. Iowa) declared that he believes one or two sections of the bill unconstitutional, but that it ought to be passed. Senator Caraway, (Dem. Ark.) said the bill was written and urged in Congress by the society for the protection of colored people. He added that it would only encourage the criminal Negro and would not do any good even if passed.

STATE LAWS IMPOTENT

Answering the charge that 21 states already had laws against lynching, Senator Shortridge (Rep. Cal).

"I have said, and I repeat, that even though the laws of a given State may denounce lynching, the State laws have not been enforced, and the men guilty have not been punished, and there have not been that diligence, that apprehension, that pursuit, that prosecution, that conviction, that punishment which ought to have occurred."

JOHNSON ISSUES STATEMENT

James Weldon Johnson, executive secretary of the N. A. A. C. P. said today that the Association will keep up its fight against lynching despite the action of the Senate.

"The abandonment of the bill by the Republican leaders in the Senate, will have far-reaching effects upon the colored people of the whole country. Of prime importance will be the political effect upon Negro voters in those Northern States where they hold the balance of power, or vote in such numbers that they are a political factor."

LODGE SPEAKS,

Senator Lodge, (Rep. Mass.) Republican leader, declared that the Dyer Bill was abandoned, because the Democratic filibuster could not be overcome, and because there was no chance of changing the rules of the Senate this session so as to permit the Republican majority to override the minority of Democrats.

1079

GRAND RAPIDS MICH PRESS
DECEMBER 1, 1922

THE DYER FILIBUSTER.

How much more efficient the United States senate could be if it were only run somewhat on the scheme of a law court. Take the Dyer bill, for instance.

The Dyer bill is a measure to force counties where lynchings are held to take the responsibility and pay a fine, and to penalize officials who fail to do their duty in such cases. It applies to the country at large, but the south, because it is there that the crime of lynching has been most prevalent, has chosen to consider itself the particular and sole object of the bill. Whether that is a wise or necessary move on the part of the south in view of certain happenings in Illinois, New Jersey and elsewhere, is beside the question; the Democrats have decreed that the Dyer bill is a partisan measure aimed at southern ways of treating serious crime, that it is a "force bill," and that it must be defeated if all the other legislation of the session has to go to pot and ruin in order to do it.

Certain good Republicans, on the other hand, are equally opposed to the bill for opposite reasons. They don't think it would force anybody. They believe it would be declared unconstitutional. If it were not, they think it would be impossible to get biased juries in the districts affected to convict lax officials. Congressman Pat Kelley voted against it because he considered it impractical, and many of his colleagues were inclined to think it was nothing more than a clever bid for the Negro vote and would never really preserve any

Negro's rights.

The important point is that all this opinion is now set. The Republicans have decided, each for himself, whether they will vote for the bill for its political values or vote it down because of its weaknesses. The Democrats, according to their geographical leanings and their degree of devotion to party unity, have similarly decided. For several days it has been time to take a vote.

The Democrats have been able, however, to manage a filibuster. They have threatened to hold up all legislation, including even the confirmation of appointments, until the Republicans agree to give up on the anti-lynching bill. They have promised to read a voluminous "History of the Negro Race" to pass the time, and to continue talking until March 4 if necessary. Their eloquence will of course be merely repetition, will receive no more attention than a battery of phonographs, and will serve only to thwart the will of the majority, which is supposed to rule.

If law court methods could only prevail in the senate, after a set limit for free debate, the vice president of the United States would rise in his chair and say: "Mr. Underwood, your remarks are irrelevant;" or "Mr. McKellar, the continuation of your lengthy comparison of the state of New Jersey to the south is inadmissible, since the bill is general;" or "Mr. Harrison, all you are saying is merely repetition and since you have nothing new to offer I must ask you to yield the floor." Challenges of these rulings would be settled by a quick vote. Prolonged filibustering would be ruled out. The "History of the Negro Race" would repose on the shelf. The Dyer bill would pass and be tried out.

This plan, of course, will never come to pass. The senate would never think of investing the vice president with judicial functions. But some approximation—some workable plan to smash a deadlock imposed by a wilful minority—is obviously necessary if congress is to get its work out.

BOLTON SMITH, LEADING SOUTHERNER, ENDORSES DYER BILL.

Dallas Texas.
The Dallas Express
10/21/22

NEW YORK, N. Y., Oct. 19.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, 70 5th Ave, New York, today made public a statement from Bolton Smith, of Memphis, Tennessee, president in 1919 of the local Rotary Club, and a trustee of the University of Tennessee, endorsing the Dyer Anti-lynching bill which is to come to a vote in the Senate during the next session of Congress.

The statement of Mr. Smith was said to be especially significant, by James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the Advancement Association, in that Mr. Smith declared the Bill contained no special attack upon the South.

Mr. Smith in his statement declares: "The crime of lynching is, next to the assassination of a prominent officer of the Nation, one of the greatest which can be committed. It is a crime against the Nation in a very real sense and therefore should be triable by Federal Courts."

Mr. Smith's statement in full is as follows:

September 27th, 1922.

"I am in favor of the Dyer Bill giving Federal Courts jurisdicition in connection with the crime of lynching under certain cases, because:

"1. I believe that local sentiment in many places is too strong to permit local authorities to enforce the law against mobs.

"2. A trial before a jury in a United States Court is not a trial before an alien tribunal. But the jury is selected from the people of the entire state or district, and one is assured of a more impartial jury—one not terrorized by that local sentiment which usually is so blatant after any mob action. Few officers have the courage to oppose strong local sentiment.

"3. There is no special attack on the South in such a measure,—It is required by the progress of the country, north as well as south. As common Negro labor has moved into the North, Negroes have been lynched by white mobs there too.

"That some Southern men who sincerely oppose lynching should not favor the Dyer Bill is due to a misapprehension of its effect and purpose. There is no part of the United States in which those favoring the due process of law for the punishment of crime should not be in favor of the punishment of lynchers by Federal Courts, whenever local officials fail to do their duty.

"4. The lynching of Negroes by white mobs is bad enough, but there is some danger that we will, before long, be faced with an even more dangerous character of lynching, namely the lynching of those of one religious faith by those of another faith. This would divide America into hostile camps and produce civil war, and we need a law that will enable the Federal Courts to repress these cases with the utmost severity.

"5. The crime of lynching is, next to the assassination of a prominent officer of the Nation, one of the greatest which can be committed. This is especially so where it is performed by one class or race and suffered by another, which other race or class re-

FILIBUSTER KILLS ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

New York Times
12-4-22

Republican Senators in Caucus Agree to Abandon the Dyer Measure.

DEADLOCK LASTED A WEEK

Majority Promises Democrats Bill Shall Not Be Called Up Again in Present Congress.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—The Dyer Anti-Lynching bill is dead. The Republican caucus voted tonight to drop the measure and authorized Senator Lodge to inform Senator Underwood, the minority leader, that this legislation, which had deadlocked the Senate since last Tuesday, will not be called up again. It will remain on the calendar until midnight of March 3, 1923, when it will officially die with the present Congress.

Senator Lodge made this announcement tonight after a three hours' caucus during which Senator Shortridge and other advocates of the legislation fought to the limit in an effort to keep the bill before the Senate. When the vote was called for, the defeat of the Shortridge-Willis-New contingent is said to have been decisive. It had been known all along that a large number of Republicans were at heart opposed to the legislation. The caucus vote was not made public.

The action of the Republicans in dropping the Dyer bill ends a filibuster which old Senate attaches declare to have been the best organized and most effective the Senate has known in a quarter of a century. Since Senator Shortridge moved late last Monday afternoon to make the anti-lynching bill the unfinished business of the Senate, legislation has been completely deadlocked. With the exception of the passage of the resolution of sympathy over the death of Representative Mann the only motions the Senate has voted on since last Monday have been motions to adjourn.

The filibuster was based entirely on the Journal of the Proceedings of the Senate. Under the rules the Journal, unless otherwise agreed to by unanimous consent, must be read at the beginning of each day's session. It is then open to amendments, and, since the Senate convened at noon last Tuesday there has never been a moment when an amendment to the Journal has not been pending. The amendments ranged from proposals to insert the names of Senators and the text of opening prayers to the recording of the hour the Vice President entered the chamber. When the Senate adjourned today the amendment pending called for the printing of the names of the reading clerk as a part of the record.

The filibuster today lasted one hour and forty-five minutes. Senator Overman of North Carolina used up most of the time in a speech in which he denounced the bill as partisan and sectional, the only real purpose of which was to solidify the negro vote of the North on the side of the Republican Party. He said it was charged that the bill had been written by a negro and this charge, he added, remained undenied.

"With a single exception those who urged this legislation in the last Congress," said Senator Overman, "went down to defeat on Nov. 7."

His reference was to Senator Frelinghuysen of New Jersey, Calder of New York, Townsend of Michigan, Sutherland of West Virginia and France of Maryland. The exception was Senator Lodge, who won re-election by the smallest plurality of his long career.

Senator Overman said the ignorant negroes of the South would interpret the bill as a Federal license to commit the foulest of outrages. The good negroes of the South, he asserted, did not want the legislation, for, he explained, "they do not need it."

"The decent hard workin negroes of the South," said the Senator, "enjoy every safeguard of the law. They own property, their children go to public schools, and for such as they this proposed legislation is absolutely uncalled for."

The Senate will convene at 10 o'clock Monday morning to confirm, before the session ends at noon, nominations now pending which have been held up as a result of the Democratic filibuster. One of the nominations is that of Pierce Butler of Minnesota, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

New York Times

THE SENATE'S SURRENDER.

In Senator LODGE's announcement that the Anti-Lynching bill will be dropped there was an obvious note of humiliation. No wonder. The leader of a party having twenty-four majority in the Senate was obliged to confess that he was powerless in the face of a determined filibuster. Never before has the Senate so openly advertised the impotence to which it is reduced by its antiquated rules of procedure. Advantage of them has often been taken in order to delay a vote, or to insist upon forcing some obnoxious amendment of a pending bill, or to talk out at the end of the session a measure to which some little group of Senators were opposed. The novelty at present is that at the very beginning of the session the minority notified the majority that it must not take up a bill which stood first on the Administration program. And after a few days of vain protest and struggling, the majority abjectly surrenders. Seldom can the leader of a proud party have had to make so mortifying a confession as that of Mr. LODGE.

It is doubtless true that the Republicans in the Senate were not sincerely and whole-heartedly in favor of the Anti-Lynching bill. Some of them would have had no stomach for a long fight on that issue. It was open to suspicion as a measure introduced mainly for partisan effect and election purposes. Yet there was no doubt that it was earnestly favored by the President. It had been formally endorsed by the official organization of the Republican Party in the Senate. It stood at the head of the Administration order of business. But it had to be ignominiously withdrawn. Senator LODGE declared that the surrender had been decided upon with great "reluctance," but that it had been made necessary by the fact that the Senate rules permit an indefinite filibuster. To attempt to change those rules at this time would only provoke an even more formidable and insurmountable filibuster. So the Senate majority wrings its hands helplessly and quits the field.

Senator CUMMINS of Iowa remarked last week that the majority was suffering a punishment only proper for not having long ago revised the rules of the Senate so as to enable it to transact public business in an orderly and efficient manner. Whether such a revision can be had in the near future is more than doubtful. With the Republican majority cut in half in the next Senate, and with the leaders of that party fearing that they are on the way to being in a minority, it is not probable that anything effective will be done. Legislation in the Senate will be possible, as during the past few years, only by unanimous consent. And it is certain that Senator LA FOLLETTE and his little band of obstructionists will seek to force surrender after surrender upon the Republican majority. They will only smile as they take note of Senator LODGE's confession of helplessness, and will say to Senator UNDERWOOD: "The "filibuster you have taught us we "will execute, and it will go hard, "but we will better the instruction."

N Y C FOURTH ESTATE
DECEMBER 16. 1922

NEWSPAPER SPACE UTILIZED TO WIN SUPPORT FOR ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Newspaper advertising has been utilized by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to present facts ~~that will lend~~ favorable action on the Dyer anti-lynching bill that is now before the United States senate. Full page copy prepared by Morgan, Tuttle and Jennings, 44 East 23rd street, New York City, appeared in New York city newspapers last week.

The agency's program for the association calls for newspaper copy in papers in Chicago, Washington, Atlanta, Kansas City, Cleveland and San Antonio.

The page copy in the New York papers was headed "The Shame of America" and then went on to give figures of the number of lynchings in the United States since 1889. The copy read: "Do you know that the United States is the only land on earth where human beings are burned at the stake" The advertisement pointed out further that from 1918 to 1921 twenty-eight people were publicly burned by American mobs.

Lynchings — 1922
Legislation

Georgia

1074

RETIRING HEAD OF GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY FORSEES FEDERAL LYNCH LEGISLATION

Pittsburgh, Pa. American
4/22/22

SAVANNAH, Ga., April 21.—Judge Andrew J. Cobb, retiring president of the Georgia Historical Society (white) in addressing the annual meeting of that body, chose as his theme, "The Right To Live," and asked the pertinent question, "Will the State protect it or must we rely upon federal authority."

This query furnished the historical basis for a discussion of lynching, or "murder by lynching" as he consistently called it throughout his paper a discussion which was the more impressive and searching because of the restrained although unflinching way in which it was handled.

Admitting that in a sense things of to-day, which are now transpiring, are not history, Judge Cobb pointed out that they are the stuff of which history is made, and this he offered as excuse for his choice of a topic. He called attention to the bill now pending in the United States Congress, already passed by the House of Representatives, which proposes to make murder by lynching an offense against the United States. What the fate of this bill will be Judge Cobb would not predict, since in the event of its passage by the Senate it is still subject to interpretation by the U. S. Supreme Court. But he did predict that, "If lynchings continue in Georgia and other states and the state courts fail to function and punish murder thus committed, the day will certainly come when the pending bill in Congress, or a similar bill, will be enacted into law and be upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States."

One of the impressive passages of Judge Cobb's address was as follows: Lynchings have occurred in Georgia. I will not further refer to the dark page in our history too well known. We think of it with shame. We discuss it only to prevent a recurrence.

No Lyncher Ever Punished.

"The pages become darker when I am constrained to say, no lyncher has ever been punished in Georgia. If there is a recorded instance of the punishment of a lyncher in Georgia it has escaped my attention and my investigation has not yet discovered it. There have been perfunctory and farcical investigations by grand juries and coroners juries. Up to recent days we have had nothing more.

"Be it said to the credit of two counties that there has been recently real bona fide investigation. In one there were indictments but, so far, no convictions. In the other investigation is still in progress, and arrests have been made to await the action of the grand jury. The course of these two counties gives us a ray of hope."

After reviewing the constitutional rights preserved to the people both by the national constitution and by the state constitution, the right to life, liberty and property, Judge Cobb said:

"The failure of a government to protect a citizen, its humblest citizen, in the right to live is abdication, with anarchy as a result.

"The right to live is guaranteed by our state constitution.

"If the due process of the law is not exerted to protect the right to live, then the government fails. There is no government, and those who wish to live and who desire to see others live, will look to some government which guarantees the right.

"Those inclined to obey the law seek a government which will administer law. If their government fails they will look elsewhere. If there is a government that can be appealed to, which can function and will function, they will welcome its protecting power and will not scrutinize closely its authority. Usurpation will be welcomed to avert anarchy."

Predicting that eventually the people will accept federal legislation against lynching, "preferring to live under government that governs rather than to attempt to exist at their peril under a government which is pretended government only," Judge Cobb added:

"There are men and groups of men in Georgia to-day who do not hesitate to commit murder by lynching in utter defiance and supreme contempt of state authority who would not dare to lay their lawless hands upon a rural mail box on a lonely road, protected only by the recognized fact that it was placed there by authority of the United States.

"There is a respect for the federal government even by the lawless. If we cannot instill the same respect for state government, then state government is at an end and federal intervention is inevitable and, I do not hesitate to say federal intervention is desirable."

Lynchings — 1922.
Legislation.

Georgia, (Golucke Bill)

1084

TO SPEED UP JUSTICE.

Atlanta Constitution 5/30/22

Whether or not enactment of the proposed Golucke bill, requiring prompt judicial decisions in criminal cases, would put an end to mob violence in Georgia, as the proponent of the plan hopes it will, it certainly would exert a wholesome influence upon society and the courts of this state.

The proposed bill is being prepared by State Senator Alvin G. Golucke, who expects to introduce it in the general assembly this summer.

As explained in the news columns of The Constitution last Sunday, its purpose and effect would be to curtail the time elapsing between the arrest of a person charged with crime and the final adjudication of his case.

Under the present system it often happens that weeks, sometimes months, pass between the date of the arrest of an alleged law-breaker and the trial of his case; then, in the event of a verdict favorable to the prosecution, more weeks and months may be consumed in the adjudication of a motion for a new trial and appeals to higher courts.

It is possible, in fact, for a defendant, having been tried, convicted and sentenced by due process of law, to keep his case pending in the courts for years before it is finally determined whether or not he is legally entitled to a new trial.

As Senator Golucke declared in his statement outlining the salient features of his proposed bill "there have been many cases in which three or four years have passed before the sentence of the court has been carried out."

Such inordinate delay in the operation of our courts is necessarily unfair one way or the other—unfair to a defendant who may be falsely accused and erroneously convicted, or unfair to society if the defendant is guilty.

The senator argues, and with merit, that such instances of long-drawn-out delay in the adjudication of criminal cases—usually predicated upon some legal technicality or fine-spun interpretation of the law—"have resulted in the creation of a sentiment that a person charged with a serious crime may go into the courts under our present laws and thwart justice for months and even years;" and that sentiment, as he sees it, is at the bottom of most cases of lynching and other manifestations of the mob spirit.

"Let our citizens see that speedy justice will be effected," he said, "and then we will see an end of disrespect of law and mob violence."

The measure proposed by Senator Golucke is directly in line with the attitude expressed by the American Bar association when it indorsed the report of its law-enforcement committee declaring that "crime diminishes or increases in proportion that punishment is swift and certain!"

And it stands to reason that any change in our legal processes making for swiftness and certainty in the application of the word as well as the spirit of the law would have a tendency to inspire public confidence in and respect for the courts and the entire legal structure of the community.

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation.

Kansas

1075

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL EFFECTIVE

Baltimore Afro-American

Kansas City, Kans. Mar. 3—Fifty-nine suits aggregating claims amounting to $100,000 have been filed here in the City Court against the city growing out of accounts of mob violence for the past two years.

Independence, Kansas has had judgments returned against it to $37,250 under the State anti-lynching law and other suits are still pending.

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation.

National (Dyer Bill)

1060

Congressman Taylor Defends Dyer Bill

East Tennessee News Knoxville

TENNESSEE'S SECOND DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE RECEIVES APPLAUSE AS HE ELOQUENTLY PLEADS FOR PASSAGE OF BILL PROVIDING PROTECTION FOR AMERICANS. MANY TELEGRAMS OF CONGRATULATIONS SENT.

1/12/22.

Special To The News.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 10.—Round after round of applause interrupted the eloquent speech of Congressman J. Will Taylor, of Tennessee's second congressional district, of which Knoxville is a part, as he stood on the floor of the House of Representatives and frankly announced that he is in hearty sympathy with the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which is now being debated there.

Mr. Taylor said in part:

"I am in thorough sympathy with the spirit of the legislation proposed by the measure under consideration. Relief of the nature provided by this bill is absolutely necessary if the nefarious practice of lynching is to be stamped out in this country. It may be that some of the provisions of this measure are subject to criticism and should be amended, but let me remind you, Gentlemen of the congress, that the lynching disease is so deep-rooted and malignant that it will not yield to ordinary treatment—it requires the scalpel of the surgeon—colorless and teethless legislation will not suffice.

"It is a common impression that all negroes lynched have been charged with a crime against women, but the report of the committee exposes this fallacy. Less than one-third of the persons lynched, both white and black have been charged with the unspeakable crime.

"While I realize that numerous lynchings have occurred in this country which were beyond the power of the civil authorities to prevent, nevertheless, in my candid opinion, a large per cent of these outrages would not have happened had the officers charged with the upholding and enforcement of the law performed their full duty.

"The officers charged with upholding the law are in sympathy with law violators and merely make pretense and a mockery of law enforcement. The whole country is sick nigh unto exhaustion with such travestry. The law must be enforced whether good or bad if our institutions shall prevail anr our civilization continue. A good law should be enforced for manifest reasons, and only the genuine enforcement of a bad law will develop and expose its viciousness and lead to its repeal."

Many Tennesseans Send Telegrams

Many local citizens, when news of Congressman Taylor's high position was received, forwarded him telegrams of congratulation. In commenting on the speech a representative citizen announced, "I am on my way now to send a telegram to our congressman and those of our citizenship who have not done so should send him a telegram or letter.

HOUSE DEBATES ANTI-LYNCHING BILL 3 HOURS

Baltimore Md. Afro-American 1/13/22

Eight And A Half Hours Of Discussion Remain Before Final Vote Can Be Called For

DEBATE BITTER TUESDAY

Rep. Vaile Scores "Contemptible Pettiness" Of Texan's Arguments

(Staff Correspondence)

Washington, D. C., Jan. 11.—The House occupied three hours of its session here yesterday with debate upon the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill—H. R. 13, leaving eight and one-half hours yet to be consumed before the final vote can be called for.

The Administration is determined to put the measure through this session, but is meeting the determined opposition of the minority Democrats, who consume much of the time in such dilatory tactcis as roll calls and moves to adjourn. The climax of the session yesterday was the refusal of the Republican members to adjourn upon one of the many motions of Representative Garrett of Tennessee, and immediately following Representative Vaile of Colorado in a dramatic appeal for the enactment of the Anti-Lynching Bill into a law referred to the "contemptible pettiness" of arguments against the measure on the part of Representative Buchanan of Texas.

Madden (Ill.) Opens Debate

Representative Madden opened the debate by saying that the "Anti-Lynching Bill" is not a bill in favor of the Negro particularly. "It is in favor of law and order." Tillman, an Arkansas Democrat, said the passage of the Dyer Bill would weaken the Republican party in the South. In an attempt to be facetious, he declared that relatives of some colored Rastus would have him lynched simply to draw the $10,000 fine imposed upon any county under the provisions of the bill, which permitted a lynching to take place within its confines. He referred to colored people as a "race of tip-takers," and said they could never rise to become a race of rulers.

Mr. Goodykoontz, of West Virginia, defended the constitutionality of the bill, declaring that the Constitution guarantees every citizen a presentiment by grand jury, when accused of crime, a trial by petit jury, compulsory attendance of witnesses for him and the right to be defended by counsel. Such rights he added were guaranteed by the fifth as well as the fourteenth amendment. He was frequently interrupted by Southerners, but read into the Record the report of former Governor Dorsey, exposing lynching and peonage in Georgia, and the statistics on lynchings in the United States furnished by Dr. R. R. Moton, of Tuskegee.

Maine Republican Opposes

Representative Hersey of Maine, a Republican, created surprise by opposing the bill. He ignorantly referred to the Southwestern Christian Advocate, an M. E. Church paper, as the organ of certain societies formed to stir up race hatred, and declared that the "Republican Party owes the Negro nothing."

Representative Little of Kansas called the lynchings in the South a "lapsing into barbarism," adding, "Unless our people leave their disputes to the courts it is only a question of time as to the collapse of the Republic." The Supreme Court, he said, had only declared 35 bills unconstitutional in the history of the nation, and Congress could afford to take another chance on the Dyer Bill.

Representative Taylor, of Tennessee told of an incident in his district concerning the near-lynching of a colored man by a mob which stormed the jail to capture a man accused of assault. They were repulse, he said, and a few days afterwards the man's innocence was clearly proven.

Representative Vaile of Colorado not only flayed Representative Buchanan of Texas for his "intemperate passion" displayed in arguing against the bill last week, but also wound up by saying, "Thank God I was reared in a different light."

The Man From Maine.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn. 1/12/22

There seems to be something about its granite hills, covered with primeval forests, and its rugged coast, facing the wild and tempestuous sea, that gives unusual strength and firmness to the character of the people of the State of Maine. The roll of its great men is a long and honorable record, containing not a few of the shining names which illustrate our annals. Joshua Soule, who was senior bishop of the great Methodist Church when it divided, in 1844, and who adhered to the southern division upon constitutional grounds, after the separation, was a native of the State of Maine, of which he was immensely proud.

In the secular world, Prentiss, one of the nation's most brilliant orators, was a son of Maine, that state sharing with Mississippi the glory of his resplendent genius. William Pitt Fessenden, who held principle above party in refusing to vote to impeach Andrew Johnson; James G. Blaine, a statesman and orator of rare ability and charm; and Thomas Brackett Reed, perhaps the greatest of modern parliamentarians, were all sons of the most northern state of the Union. And we do not recall a single instance in which Maine has ever selected a representative who was a reed easily shaken by the wind. They have been men who had partaken of the physical nature of the commonwealth which bore them.

And the womb of Maine is still fruitful of sons having similar characters. Ira G. Hersey, a member of the House of Representatives from that state, is the one who has most recently vindicated its lofty claim to adherence to principle. A few days ago Mr. Hersey delivered an unanswerable argument, when it was before the committee of the whole, showing the unconstitutionality of the pending anti-lynching bill, so-called. Claiming to be a "regular Republican," the gentleman from Maine affirmed his pleasure in following his party whenever he could do so with a good conscience, "without violating my oath to support the constitution."

With pitiless logic, Mr. Hersey destroyed the pretense that the pending measure is the redemption of a party pledge, and he clinched this point in the following striking statement:

The Southwestern Christian Advocate, the organ of certain societies formed to stir up race hatred and race prejudice, under date of December 29 advocates the passage of the Dyer bill by the Republicans of this House as a bill to pay the debts of the Republican party. It says:

"Let it be said that if the party's debt to the negro can be canceled by consummating this vast moral reform, which means so much for the future perpetuity of the nation, the bargain would be legitimate and the negro welcomes the deal."

Of course the negro welcomes the "deal." Under the false statements of certain agitators, who are working to bring about race riots, the negro will welcome the "deal." This bill will give him the opportunity in large cities to hide up dark alleys and in crowded buildings and shoot up innocent men, women and children on the streets with United States courts and marshals hundreds of miles away.

I want to say as a Republican that there is no deal or bargain made by the Republican party to pay off any alleged debts to the negro by the passage of this anti-lynching bill. We as a party owe the colored people nothing, and for one I refuse to be politically blackmailed. (Applause.)

Mr. Hersey scathingly refers to his fellow New Englander, "the Hon. Moorfield Storey of Massachusetts, who is attorney for an organization of agitators known as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an organization whose work is to stir up the race question in the south and to induce the ignorant negroes to believe that they are the victims of imaginary wrongs at the hands of the whites and that Congress can stop all lynchings." And his peroration, in the words that follow, is worthy of the best traditions of eloquent statesmanship:

Since the days of Blaine and Grady the sons of the Blue and the Gray have fought side by side on land and on sea, first to liberate the slaves of Spain. Then next the soldiers of the North and the South, forgetting partisanship and sectionalism, have borne the old flag of the fathers to triumphant victory on the blood-red fields of France, and while I am speaking to you together the sons of the Blue and the Gray sleep side by side under the poppies of Flanders Field. Only yesterday the path of the president was strewn with flowers by the people of the south. Never was this nation more happily united. Here in the capital of the nation we have been spending the past two months with the great leaders of the civilized world. We have been trying to demonstrate how beautiful it is for nations to dwell together in unity.

In the afterglow of these happy Christmas hours through which we have just passed, when our hearts cry out "Peace on earth, good will toward men," it is no time to enact this monstrous law that can have no other effect or result than to fan into flames the expiring embers of race and class hatred and bring back again to the beautiful southland the awful horrors of those days of darkness that followed the Civil War. God help us as Republicans to forget the doubtful political value of this bill and work together, north and south, east and west, for the peace, prosperity, glory and grandeur of a united republic. (Applause.)

What Is Lynching?

Commercial Appeal 1/28/22

The lower house of Congress has passed the anti-lynching bill. What is it? How much territory does it include?

When is lynching a riot or when is a riot a lynching?

If 100 men kill a man, is it lynching? If two men kill a man, is it lynching? If a man runs amuck and goes down the street shooting or threatening to shoot and citizens in attempting to stop the man are compelled to kill him, is that lynching?

Is a transaction in the south lynching and the same transaction north of the Ohio River not lynching? More negroes were killed and wounded in the East St. Louis and Chicago riots than were lynched in the south in the last 20 years. This is a broad assertion, but the facts will bear us out. Many more negroes were killed and wounded in Chicago than were reported in the papers.

Will the Republicans of Illinois, who voted for the measure, content themselves by saying their affairs were merely racial outbreaks?

Once more we find Congress in this matter playing at politics and devoting time to things out of which no good can come or going at a thing in the wrong way when something substantial might be done.

If every member of Congress would go back to his own district and devote one week to a series of speeches on the necessity of obedience to the law and on the necessity of a man controlling his own brutal passions, then the members would be striking at the taproots of some of our disorders.

The present bill, if enacted into a law, merely says if you lynch some one you have got to pay for it.

About 1,200 years ago in some countries any murder could be paid for at a certain amount. The family of a poor man could accept a small amount. The family of a king required a larger sum. This law finally became a dead letter because it accomplished nothing.

The Commercial Appeal has good reasons to speak in this matter of legislation about lynching. We do not believe in mob violence. We have never condoned a lynching. The reason is not through a sympathy for the victim of the mob, but because if men obey the law in one thing they must obey it in all things. A mob does more injury to human society in the aggregate and strikes a deeper wound into the body of the republic than the injuries or the wounds it inflicts upon the object of its wrath.

If we would build up a sentiment for the law in every community we will go far towards reducing the number of its violations.

The anti-lynching bill is a dodge to catch votes. It offers a shadow for a substance—and the substance itself would avail nothing.

Federal Encroachment

Commercial Appeal 1/27/22

The anti-lynching bill which has for some time been under discussion in the House of Representatives is admitted by its supporters to be of doubtful constitutionality, some of whom concede it unreservedly. But it is claimed that the measure represents an obligation due from the Republican party to the negro; that the party will have kept its promise by its passage, and that the supreme court may be relied upon now, as throughout the past, to nullify the law thus unconstitutionally enacted.

Passing by the farcical performance thus proposed, the question arises: Can the supreme court be with confidence looked to for the protection which it has afforded in the past? We confess that we do not know. The complexion of that tribunal is quite different in some important respects from what it has ever before been. But this we do know, that its chief justice was reared under views of social relations between the races which are repulsive to the south. In making this statement we rely upon an incident related in a very interesting volume by Mrs. Taft, which is in the nature of an autobiography of herself and her distinguished husband.

It is gratifying to note that southern representatives have opposed this measure with ability resembling that of a former era, and that northern Democrats and some Republicans have patriotically assisted them in the fight. This should not be forgotten. And we are impressed with these words, taken from an able speech by Mr. Montague of Virginia:

Mr. Chairman, I have only the kindest feelings for the colored people of my state and of the south. I believe it the duty of government to go the length—aye, the full length—to protect the obscure and the ignorant and the weak; they deserve the protection of government more than the mighty and the wise or learned. But this great body should not run wild to enforce a law that, if possibly constitutional, may encounter a worse ending, namely, the destruction of our governmental system. It is a mistake to think that the states come from the federal government. The truth of history and the philosophy of our institutions is that the federal government comes from the states. (Applause.) It is true that we have whittled away, as the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Burton) suggested this morning, the rights of the states. This may be the result of inexorable influences or the march of inevitable events; I know not; but it is not a part of statesmanship to facilitate that influence or stimulate that march. When we continue to centralize government in Washington, to augment and multiply its powers, with innumerable officeholders and appalling costs, we will then have a huge, mighty, complex machine, clumsy in operation, consuming the substance of the people in cost of maintenance, and in its last analysis destructive of human liberty and human rights. (Applause.) I am no fanatic on the subject of state rights. I believe in a liberal exercise of the powers of the constitution. I would if I could place myself in the company of John Marshall. I would first know that the power exists under this instrument, either expressed or implied; and if the power so exists, I would next know, Is the measure proposed essential to carry out the express or implied power?

LYNCHERS SHOULD BE HANGED, NEFF TELLS CONVENTION

Disrespect For Law Is Bitterly Assailed Before Ft. Worth Meeting

Houston Post 1/18/22

Houston Post Special.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Jan. 17.—"Our government was not instituted to favor criminals, but to protect the law-abiding, and every crime committed is a crime against the State," Governor Pat M. Neff declared in an address delivered before the mass meeting for law enforcement here Tuesday night.

"The march of man over oceans of blood and rivers of tears, through all the centuries, has been but a continuous struggle for the supremacy of the law," he said. "It is a sad commentary on our history that after 2000 years of Christian citizenship, with a code of laws as our protection, with a Bible of laws as our guide and with a God of law as our inspiration, we are compelled to gather here in mass meeting to discuss ways and means of making Texas a safe and peaceful place in which to live.

"I come as a citizen of Texas and as the governor of this State to speak on the supremacy of the law," the governor said, "and this necessarily must command the listening ear, the co-operative mind and the sympathetic heart of every citizen who loves his country.

"We have an unprecedented growth of crime. Cold, cruel, calculating crime has been organized and commercialized in Texas.

"For the past two years Texas has witnessed and is now experiencing the greatest crime wave in her history. This crime wave is the result of a breakdown in the administration of our criminal code. The law no longer has terror for evildoers. We have minimized punishment for crime until it has stripped the law of its power."

Bearing down heavily on the responsibility of every one to encourage law enforcement, Governor Neff declared that "the enforcement of the law depends fundamentally upon the will of the people and when people scoff at the law and those attempting to enforce it, they are aiding the cause of anarchy and mob violence. A stream will rise no higher than its source."

Tells of Mexia.

The causes for declaring martial law at Mexia were briefly outlined. The governor stated his unalterable conviction that "no parliament of gamblers, bootleggers, thieves, thugs, murderers and trespassers of the law generally should be permitted to establish courts, elect officers and take charge of any county in this State."

The governor attacked the suspended sentence law, declaring the practical workings of the law to be conclusive proof that it should be repealed. Lynching was denounced by the governor as a disease and he urged the necessity for the enactment of legislation that would cure it.

"Every lynching party strikes a deadly blow at civilization," the governor said. He called attention to the number of such lawless acts in Texas during the past year, pointing out that these exceeded in number those occurring in any other State of the Union. "The State should hang about a dozen high-grade lynchers," the governor declared. "Such object lessons would materially dampen the ardor of lynching mobs and Texas would no longer lead the world in the blood-written records of Judge Lynch's court."

In conclusion, Governor Neff told his hearers that "the people, the backbone of Texas citizenship, are for law and order. I know them. They think straight when advised of all the facts, and when brought to a realization of present lawless conditions they will place the stamp of their disapproval on those who do not stand for supremacy of the law."

"The fight is only well started," the governor warned, "and there is no doubt that the forces of law and order will win when an aroused public conscience will roll away the stone that hinders and the law will emerge triumphant."

Upshaw and Brand Throw Bombs in New York Camp in Anti-Lynching Bill Consideration.

1/19/22

Constitution Bureau, Raleigh Hotel.

Washington, January 18.—(By Constitution Leased Wire.)—Two Georgia congressmen held the center of the stage in the house today when they tripped up two New York representatives in a heated colloquy during the debate on the anti-lynching bill. They were Judge Charles H. Brand, of Athens, and W. D. Upshaw, of Atlanta, and it goes without saying that they took care of the Georgia end of the controversy.

Seigel, of New York, was arguing that a federal jury would be more apt to render a jury verdict than a local jury, while Upshaw replied that the juries would be men from the same section and dominated by the same general ideals. Seigel declared that in the Williams case it was necessary to have a change of venue, whereupon Upshaw replied that Williams was tried and convicted in the county where the crime was committed.

Representative Hamilton Fish, Jr., the millionaire congressman from Gotham, shot a hot charge at Georgia's lynching record, whereupon Upshaw replied that the editorial just read from The New York Tribune on the comparative lynching records of New York and Georgia was utterly unfair on a basis of population, "for," said Upshaw, "Georgia has had a thousand-fold greater provocation than New York. My state has never failed to go after lynchings. We understand the situation far better than strangers and we are legally doing our best."

Just here Judge Brand threw a bomb into the New York camp by giving the startling piece of history that the first lynching ever occurred in Georgia was done by federal soldiers at Lawrenceville in 1868. A negro was being pursued for rape, and, seeking protection from the union soldiers. They hanged him with a rope when they heard the nature of his crime.

Georgia scored today.

1061

Lynchings — 1922 & Legislation

National (Dyer Bill)

SOUTHERN ARGUMENT AGAINST THE DYER BILL

New York Age 1/14/22

Last Wednesday in the House of Representatives, the Dyer Bill came up for debate. Southern Democrats again resorted to their tactics of filibuster. They failed to prevent the consideration of the Bill, and their failure was more marked because of the fact that the Bill was debated on Calendar Wednesday. In order for this to be done it was necessary to suspend the calendar by a two-thirds vote. The supporters of the Bill were able to do this and thereby gave an indication of the real strength which the Bill has behind it.

Mr. Dyer led off for the passage of the Bill. He spoke about fifty minutes and made a splendid presentation of the facts which demand the passage of the measure. He secured consent to extend his remarks and was thereby able to place in the record a vast amount of data and statistics on lynching, together with a number of strong editorials from various newspapers in favor of the Bill.

The opposition led off with a speech by Mr. Sumners of Texas. Mr. Sumners spoke about an hour and a half and shot what appeared to be the heaviest bolt which the Democrats have, and the bolt proved to be not such a heavy one at that.

Mr. Dyer, by the emphasis which he put upon the authentic figures about lynching, robbed the Democrats of their stock argument regarding the cause of lynching. Mr. Dyer gave the figures to show that in the last thirty-five years there have been about 4,000 known cases of lynching and that out of that whole number there have been only 800 cases in which rape is alleged as the cause. These figures prevented Mr. Sumners from basing his argument, as he most likely would have done, on an appeal to passion.

Deprived of his stock argument, Mr. Sumners floundered around in a sea of absurdities. The following is an example of the silly reasoning to which the statesman from Texas was reduced:

Mr. Sumners went on to say that when they lynch Negroes in the South they try to find out the individual man who was guilty and put him to death; that in the South they did not do as is done in the North, where dozens of innocent Negroes are killed in riots such as took place in Washington, Chicago and Omaha. He said that the proposed Bill would very likely bring about the same wholesale methods in the South.

Mr. Sumners went on to say:

> "That is the sort of thing we are afraid of. We people who believe we understand the situation are convinced that you men are fixing to cut the cord that holds in leash the passion of race conflict in the South and bring to the South such tragedies as that of East St. Louis, in which almost as many people were killed in that one city in one riot as are killed in the entire South by mobs in two years."

There then took place the following colloquy between Mr. Sumners of Texas and Mr. Mondell, the Republican floor leader:

> Mr. MONDELL. Will the gentleman yield?
>
> Mr. SUMNERS of Texas. Yes.
>
> Mr. MONDELL. Do I understand it to be the gentleman's position that in order to keep down———
>
> Mr. SUMNERS of Texas. Just for a question.
>
> Mr. MONDELL (continuing). The passions of race prejudice it is necessary to give them an occasional outlet of burnings and lynchings?
>
> Mr. SUMNERS of Texas. I do not.
>
> Mr. MONDELL. Then, I do not quite understand the gentleman's statement.
>
> Mr. SUMNERS of Texas. Sit down and I will make you understand it. It is a hard job, but I can do it. Here is what I mean. Listen to me. Look at me and let me talk to you. I mean this: I mean that nobody on this earth can protect the black man who is in danger of mob violence except the people in the community at the very time of the danger. I mean that if the Federal Government interposes its power, assumes responsibility now borne entirely by the people, so that the man on the ground will feel it is not his duty to protect, but that the Federal Government has stepped in and will take care of the situation, then you are likely to turn loose the passions of race conflict in that community.
>
> Let me tell you something. Suppose this other thing happens—and you can do it under this bill—suppose that a black man takes a little white child and drags her off into seclusion where no voice can hear and no hand can help, and rapes that child, and the father of that child and the brothers of the child come up on him and kill him, and the Federal Government takes them away in the face of public sentiment and places them in the Federal penitentiary, and then has a tax of $10,000 levied against the county for the benefit of the rapists family, a part of which sum might go to buy that family an automobile to ride by the home of the innocent victim, do you think, as a matter of common sense, with such a policy you could long prevent a condition in that country like those which developed in East St. Louis, Omaha, and Chicago?

Could anything be more abusrd than the conclusion reached by Mr. Sumners—**that there is any Negro anywhere in the South either so ignorant or so brutal that when he hears that the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is a law he will decide upon having himself roasted alive in order that his surviving family may collect $10,000 and buy an automibile in which to ride around and make the white folks mad? We do not see how Mr. Sumners himself refrained from breaking out into a laugh after making such a statement.**

Mr. Sumners also dwelt at length upon the purpose of the Bill to give immunity to persons accused of crime. Such a wilful contortion of the truth is incredible when anyone who merely glances through the Bill knows that its purpose is to secure trial by due processes of law to persons accused of crime.

When Mr. Sumners arose to speak pages followed him down to the front with a stack of law books which, if piled one on top of the other, would have reached the height of four or five feet. These books were apparently brought in only to make an impression, because Mr. Sumners did not during the course of his whole speech put them to any other use. He did, however, couch upon what he and all the opponents of the Bill consider to be its weakness constitutionally, and it is the point upon which a good many Republicans in favor of the Bill are stumbling. Mr. Sumners declared that if the Federal Government has the power to legislate for the punishment of lynching it also has the power to legislate for the punishment of murder and other crimes committed in the states.

We believe Mr. Sumners is right and that the thing for the supporters of the Bill to do is to meet him squarely on the grounds which he lays down. **We believe that if the states prove themselves unable or unwilling to deal with, say, the crime of murder, the Federal Government would have the power to step in and legislate regarding the punishment for that crime.**

But the analogy between murder and lynching is not a true one. Lynching is murder, but it is also more than murder. In murder, one or more individuals take life, generally, for some personal reason. In lynching, a mob sets itself up in place of the State and it acts in place of due processes of law to mete out death as a punishment to a person accused of crime. **It is not only against the act of killing that the Federal Government seeks to exercise its power through the proposed law, but against the act of the mob in arrogatoing to itself the functions of the State and substituting its actions for the due processes of law guaranteed by the Constitution to every person accused of crime.** In murder, the Murderer merely violates the law of the State. In lynching the mob arrogates to itself the powers of the State and the functions of government. The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is aimed against lynching not only as murder, but as anarchy—anarchy which the states have proven themselves powerless to cope with.

We believe that the opposition of the Southern Democrats to the Anti-Lynching Bill will show itself weaker and weaker each time the Bill is debated. Their argument of rape as the cause for lynching has already been exploded and shown to be groundless, and we believe that the constitutional quibbles which they have raised, and will raise, will meet the same fate.

The indications are that the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill will pass the House at an early date by a large majority.

Maine Republican Delivers Best Speech Against Dyer Anti-Lynching Measure

Birmingham Age-Herald 1/17/22

Address of Representative Hersey Constitutes Terrible Indictment Against Republican Party, Benton Embarrassing South for Political Smiles of Negro Race

By HUGH W. ROBERTS
Washington Bureau, The Age-Herald, 500 Davidson Building.

Washington, January 13.—(Special.)—"It is no time to enact this monstrous law that can have no other effect than to fan into flames the expiring embers of race and class hatred and bring back again to the beautiful southland the awful horrors of those days of darkness that followed the Civil war. God help us as republicans to forget the doubtful political value of this bill and work together for the peace prosperity, glory and grandeur of our united republic."

The best speech made to date against the "anti-lynching" bill introduced by Representative Dyer of Missouri, republican, came from the lips of Representative Ira G. Hersey of Maine, republican. It constituted a terrible indictment of the republican party bent on embarrassing the south for the political smiles of the negro race.

Fear Tuskegee Backsliding

In the course of his address Mr. Hersey referred to the Tuskegee institute, made famous through the intelligent behavior of Booker Washington, in such manner as to suggest that thoughtful people of the north are fearing lest that institute has failed to observe the high standards as established by Washington. Said Mr. Hersey:

"The only evidence, if it may be called evidence, before the House that any state has legalized lynching or denied to any person the equal protection of law comes from two interested and prejudiced sources. First, propaganda furnished through the mails to every member of Congress from an organization in Alabama named the Tuskegee institute. Their stuff consists of statistics prepared by someone unknown purporting to show the average number of lynchings through the United States for the last 30 years. They do not furnish one bit of evidence as to what any state has done or neglected to do to stop or punish these lynchings. They do not furnish the history of any case as to what was done in the courts of the states to prevent lynchings or to punish lynchers. They do not give a single fact as a basis for Congress to say that any state has denied to any person the equal protection of its laws."

The second source of propaganda, according to Mr. Hersey, was the new work organization calling itself the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Scores Political Cowardice

Mr. Hersey was especially effective in scoring the political cowardice of the republican party which has conspired to enact this law. He referred to the fact that the author of the bill, Mr. Dyer, represents a large negro constituency, and that as result of the negro exodus from the south, the negro controls the balance of power in many districts throughout the United States.

Mr. Hersey declared the bill unconstitutional, and charged that everybody knew it to be. He declared it the purpose of politicians to "pass the buck" to the supreme court, knowing in advance the decision of the supreme court. "They say in so many words," Mr. Hersey continued, "'This republican Congress can satisfy the colored people by this legislation. If the supreme court declares it unconstitutional, which it doubtless will, then the negro will have nobody to blame but the supreme court; and as the judges of that court are appointed for life and do not, like representatives ,come up every two years for election, they can suffer no harm.'

"I say with Abraham Lincoln, 'No man who has sworn to support the constitution can conscientiously vote for what he understands to be unconstitutional, however expedient he may think it.' We as a party owe the colored people nothing, and for one I refuse to be politically blackmailed."

Exposes Folly of Bill

Mr. Hersey exposed the folly of the Dyer bill. He said: "Lynching is nothing but murder. This bill if enacted and held constitutional could be used to sweep away all the laws of the states. Not a single state criminal law would remain superior to the federal statutes, for in the language of the assistant attorney general, 'the same principle would apply to larceny, burglary and assault and battery.'

"Under the false statements of professional agitators, who are working to bring about race riots, the negro will welcome this 'deal.' This bill will give him the opportunity in large cities to hide in dark alleys and in crowded buildings, and shoot up innocent men, women and children on the streets with United States courts and marshals hundreds of miles away."

WHO KILLED STATE'S RIGHTS.

Montgomery Advertiser 1/29/22

The Southern members of Congress called in vain upon the once sacred name of State's Rights; ignoring their pleas, the Republican House members passed the vicious Anti-Lynching bill by a vote of two to one.

Did it lie in the mouths of the Southern representatives to plead the doctrine of State's Rights? Could they consistently argue that the Federal Government was making an unconstitutional invasion of the rights of the State, in transferring lynching cases to the Federal courts. In law and justice they would be justified. But State's Rights, as a doctrine, was dead. These same Southern members had themselves merrily set about the job of killing the old doctrine. They had failed to stand up manfully for a doctrine their fathers had fought for and which was being hard pressed to live. They helped the Republicans put the finishing strokes to the doctrine that the States had certain rights which the Federal Government was bound to respect.

We realize now that the doctrine of State's Rights was doomed, and yet it was depressing to a Southerner to see in the several proposed amendments to the Constitution, supported by these same members in recent years, Southern representatives, forgetting a principle to be ruled solely by expedency. Perhaps some Southern member who was being humiliated at the humiliation of the South, in the passage of this sectional, partisan and unnecessary bill which can do no possible good, recalled the words of a poignant little poem:

"I made the Cross myself whose weight
Was later laid on me,
The thought adds anguish as I toil
Up my steep calvary;
To think mine own hands drove the nails.
I sang a merry song--
And chose the heaviest wood I had
To build it firm and strong."

State's Rights is dead, in the final analysis, because Southern men and the representatives of Southern people helped its enemies kill it.

Under Influence Of Speeches Being Made In Opposition To Anti-Lynching Bill, Desire For Negro's Blood At Home Takes On A New Life

St. Louis Mo. Argus 1/20/22

While Congress still dilly-dallys over the passage of the anti-lynching bill which is being held up by the southern representatives, the lovers of the sport (lynching) continues to endulge in their popular pastime.

The speeches made by those southerners in the House advocating and defending lynching have reflected its influence on the white people at home, and the desire for Negro blood has taken on new life.

Florida Mob Lynches Negro

According to press dispatches a mob of seveal thousand participants in a lynching at Mayo, Fla. on Jan. 18.

Not a Case of Rape

The charge of rape did not enter this case. It is said that one, Will Harris, colored, shot and mortally wounded one W. R. Taylor, a mail carrier, whom it is alleged went to Harris' house on Saturday night in quest of "whie mule" and when Harris refused to furnish tre liquor, a quarrel ensued and during the altercation, Taylor was shot.

Harris fled and after hiding around for a few days, he gave himself up to the sheriff and claimed self-defense and asked the sheriff for protection that he might have a trial and a chance to defend himself before the law.

Sheriff Turns Prisoner Over to Mob

On a pretex of hiding his prisoner from the mob, the sheriff kept Will Harrs away from the county jail until a mob had been organized and everything ready for the "turn over." He then brought his prisoner from the hiding place and turned him over to the mob of several hundred.

Holiday Gala Affair

The news of the capture of the victim spread quickly throughout the community and a general holiday was taken in celebrating the lynching so as many as possible could take part.

When once in the hands of the mob, the victim was dragged through the streets and hanged to a telegraph pole nearly in the heart of the little village, and while the yet dangling form was suspended in the air, the body was riddled with bullets fired by members of the mob.

No arrests were made by the sheriff who claim he could not identify any one in the mob..

Harris was known as a "bootlegger" and was known to have enemies among those whom he was not willing to serve.

Roll Calls Indicate Proponents of Measure Are in Majority

1/26/22

Drastic Amendments to Alter Penalties Feature Will Be Offered

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25.—Debate in the house on the Dyer anti-lynching bill was concluded today, and the measure was taken up under the five minute rule, which affords members an opportunity to offer amendments. Republican leaders announcing that the bill would be kept before the house until a final vote was reached, said they were confident it would be sent to the senate late tomorrow or Friday.

Roll calls during debate indicated that proponents of the measure were in a majority, but it is expected that a number of drastic amendments will be offered in an attempt to alter provisions calling for heavy penalties in the way of fines and imprisonment for persons participating in lynchings and for officials, who, through negligence, fail to prevent them. The bill as it stands also provides that counties in which lynchings occur must forfeit $10,000 to the families of the victims.

Democrats are said to stand practically solid in opposition, although two minority members, Representatives Cockran and Griffin, both of New York, spoke in favor of the bill today. Several republicans have expressed opposition to it, and a number of republican members are expected to vote in the negative on the final roll call.

The session today was marked by a verbal clash between Representatives Sisson, democrat, Mississippi, and Cooper, republican, Wisconsin, which threw the house into confusion, with several hundred negroes in the galleries joining in a demonstration that was silenced with difficulty. The flare-up occurred when Mr. Cooper declared Mr. Sisson "had openly advocated" mob rule. Mr. Sisson, during an attack on the bill, had described conditions in the South and had contended that mob violence could not be stamped out until "black rascals keep their hands off the throats of white women."

Advocating federal action as a means of checking lynchings, Representative Mondell, republican leader, declared that states had failed utterly to assert their authority. If permitted to go unchecked, Mr. Mondell contended, lynching will break down and destroy law and order and civilization.

Representative Garrett, Tennessee, democratic leader, appealed to members from the Pacific coast, who, he said, were confronted with a perplexing race question, to stand with opponents of the Dyer bill in resisting interference of the federal government in state affairs.

"Whatever you people in the West decide to do in working out your problem, we of the South will understand," said Mr. Garrett.

Unwilling to Pay for Lynching

New York Times 1/22/22

A cynic might deduce from the bitterness of the opposition manifested in Congress to the passage of the anti-lynching law that thus a precious privilege would be taken away. None of the eloquent orators who are fighting the bill have any good words to say for mob violence, but evidently they assume that it will continue unless communities and local officials are held to a money responsibility for what they do or fail to do.

That is not a complete and therefore not quite a fair statement of the case as those who are against the bill see it, but it is not far from the truth. No State or town where lynching was prevented by efficient and timely action ever would have to pay any penalties under the proposed law. Only those doubtful of their own powers or intentions can be afraid of it.

Lynchings—1922
Legislation

1057

Dyer Bill (National)

EUROPEANS DO NOT UNDERSTAND MOB LAW.

Europeans do not understand our mob law methods, and they have a very low opinion of American morals and manners. They should not be blamed. Our morals and manners, as a Nation, are bad enough to be incomprehensible to people who do not understand and to many Americans who know but cannot understand. We have watched the conduct of high class Americans in foreign countries and have been surprised at their utter disregard of the customs and manners of the people among whom they were sojourning, or of the impression they should make upon them; they have acted, it seemed to us, as if they thought they were the salt of the earth, a law unto themselves, without need of the good opinion of others.

Here at home, in travelling about the country and getting about our own community, it is noticeable that the average person makes a license to do as he pleases with the liberty which belongs to him only to the point where the liberty of his neighbor begins. The moment his liberty runs into the liberty of his neighbor, for which he shows disregard, his troubles begin, or should. Our courts work overtime upon cases growing out of disregard and contempt of the liberty and feelings of others.

In an addess at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, in Harlem, recently, Dr. Charles E. Jefferson of the Broadway Tabernacle, said some very emphatic things against the American mob law spirit, and in favor of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill. He has traveled widely, and, among other things, said:

"Nothing in America has brought more disgrace upon its people in the eyes of those across the ocean than the lynching atrocities committed against the Negro race in this country.

"We Americans do not appear as we think we do in the opinions of Europeans. We are exhibiting too much of our national conceit. The upper classes in Europe take little interest in us, and, in most cases look down on us. It is the common people of the foreign countries that can forsesee the benefits of earning a better livelihood; but the average man in Europe is surprised at the lynching practices of certain sections of this country."

The American people are in process of a new development of race type from the Puritan type of New England and the Swagger Blackguard Cavalier type of the South, and the Afro-American group is giving freely of its blood and spirit to the creation of the New American type, but what the ultimate type will be no man is prophet enough to say at this time. It will certainly be such a type as the world has not before had. Just think of the race groups that are contributing to the making of it.

We learn from the *Minnesota Messenger*, published at Minneapolis, that such diverse elements as organized labor and a ministerial federation have voted for the passage of the Dyer bill. The *Messenger* tells of this action as follows:

New York Age 4/22/22

Through the efforts of Mr. Alfred Moore, the Trades and Labor Assembly, of which he is a member, approved of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and went on record in writing to our Congressmen and Senators to vote for its passage. Mr. Moore is the representative Negro among the Labor officials. He recently organized the Colored Culniary Workers, composed of the restaurant, dining car and hotel employes.

The Minneapolis Federation of Ministers, representing eight denominations and 50,000 communicants, met at Bethlehem Presbyterian Church and adopted a resolution offered by Rev. D. M. Jordan, requesting the Senate to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.

NEW YORK HERALD
APRIL 6, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL DYING IN COMMITTEE

Senate Body Too Busy; Will Not Force the Measure.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., April 5.

The anti-lynching bill, an Administration measure, which passed the House two months ago, seems destined to die in the Senate Judiciary Committee. No action is expected by this ession of Congress..

Senator Nelson (Minn.), chairman, says several important measures are before the committee and he could give no indication as to when the anti-lynching bill will be reported. For months the Judiciary Committee has scarcely been functioning since the members belong to other committees which have been very active. Senator Nelson frequently has been forced to sound out the members on some question and get their votes on a proposition "on the run."

"There is no disposition on the part of the committee to force the anti-lynching bill to the front, and it must take its chances with the other measures, many of which are ahead of it on the calendar.

LITTLE ROCK ARK. GAZETTE
MARCH 2, 1922

A KANSAS LAW AND THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

In connection with the so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill it is interesting to know that Kansas has an anti-mob law that is like the Dyer bill in that it penalizes communities where violence occurs. It is also interesting to know that a number of Kansas communities that have been mulcted or are threatened with mulcting under this law are demanding its repeal or modification and that the Kansas League of Municipalities is joining in this demand.

The Kansas Supreme Court has ruled that under this anti-mob law three or more persons constitute a mob, for whose illegal action a municipality can be held responsible. We are told that the feeling is growing throughout Kansas that no city is safe under this interpretation of the statute and this feeling is strengthened by the judgments that have recently been obtained.

In December, 1920, there was a race riot at Independence, Kan., which grew out of the murder of a grocer by a negro. Independence was sued by four persons injured in this riot and by the parents of a boy who was killed. One plaintiff has gotten a judgment for $18,000; a second plaintiff a judgment for $15,000; a third case has been settled out of court for $4,250. Two more suits are awaiting trial, one of them being an action for $10,000 brought by the parents of the boy who was killed. At Bonner Springs, Kan., a supposed bootlegger was mobbed and it cost the taxpayers $20,000 in damages, court costs and lawyers' fees. Against Kansas City, Kan., 59 suits have been brought for a total of $949,978 and 26 of these suits are the result of troubles that occurred in the strike of packing house workers.

If cities in Kansas object so strongly to being mulcted under that state's anti-mob law how can Kansas support the Dyer bill, under which a county in which a lynching occurred would be arbitrarily mulcted no matter whether the county, through its officials, was negligent or in any way at fault?

KANSAS LABOR ANTI LYNCH BILL

Savannah Ga Tribune 4/6/22

Requests Senator To Support Dyer Bill

New York, March 31—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, to-day announced receipt of copy of a letter addressed to Senator Curtis of Kansas by the Topeka Industrial Council, representing thousands of organized laboring men in Kansas. The letter is as follows:

March 7, 1922

Hon. Charles Curtis, U. S. Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

The Topeka Industrial Council, representing 8000 organized workers, is very much interested in the Bill, known as the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, now pending in that branch of our National government, of which you are an honorable and able member.

It is reported, that the fight against the bill will "be a very difficult one," for the lack of some strong and experienced Senator, to take hold of it and put it over.

In view of this reported situation, the Topeka Industrial Council in regular meeting assembled, decided to ask you if you will take hold of the Bill, and press it to passage.

The disturbed condition of affairs are such, that the passage of the Bill will be considered a step in favor of a greater civilization, safeguarding human rights.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRESS
MAY 12, 1922

The Anti-Lynching Bill.

The recent lynching of three negroes in Texas suspected of criminal assault is a new and powerful argument in favor of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. During the last three decades there have been 3,400 murders by mobs in the United States, most of which were in the South. All of the deliberate horrible burnings at the stake were there, and for the most part went unpunished; for local authorities will not prosecute or make an empty show of prosecution. President Harding well called it a national disgrace which ought to be ended; but there is little reason to hope that it will be unless the Federal government takes the matter in hand. The South is bitter and practically unanimous in its opposition to Federal interference and flaunts the old banner of states' rights while shrieking its protests against the proposed law. But flouting the doctrine of states' rights the South was chiefly instrumental in forcing national prohibition on the country; and it seems high time that the cotton states should have a draught of their own medicine forced down their throats. If the central government can take the matter of regulating the diet of citizens out of the hands of states, it can certainly prevent or punish horrible barbarities and mob murders in states where they habitually occur.

NEW HAVEN CONN. TIMES LEADER
FEBRUARY 18, 1922

LYNCHINGS PREVENTED IN 1921

According to statistics published by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, there were 64 victims of mob violence in the United States last year, the most of them being negroes and far the greater part of the lynchings occurring in the Southern States where all but 8.1 per cent of the negro population is congested. More interesting than these lynching figures themselves are the figures presented by the same association showing that in 72 instances the officers of the law prevented lynchings and that 64 of these preventions of lynchings by officers of the law occurred in the Southern States.

In other words more lynchings were prevented by officers of the law than actually occurred in the Southern States last year. And yet the anti-lynching bill pending in congress, aiming to prevent lynchings, is based and is advocated on the assumption that the officers of the law in the Southern States make no effort to interfere with lynchers, and that in order to deal with them the federal authority should reach its arm into those states, overriding state police power and state legal authority. Under the circumstances—with continual and inevitable inter-racial friction—the South's record of lynching prevention is as satisfactory and as promising as could reasonably be expected.

W. P. C. TRIBUNE
JUNE 1, 1922

Lynchings Disgrace U. S., Dyer Writes to Senators

Representative Calls on Judiciary Committee for Bill That Will Stop Practice

WASHINGTON, May 31.—Declaring the United States is disgraced the world over "on account of the mob law prevailing in many states," Representative Dyer, Republican, of Missouri, in a letter to-day to Chairman Nelson of the Senate Judiciary Committee, protested against further delay on the part of that committee in acting on the anti-lynching bill passed by the House.

The House Judiciary Committee, the House itself and the Attorney General have gone on record as of the opinion that the pending bill is constitutional, Mr. Dyer said, but he suggested that if the Senate Committee held otherwise it proceed to pass a bill which would meet the situation.

"It is beyond dispute," the letter said, "that states are unable to protect citizens of the United States resident in the respective states where lynchings are going on."

DETROIT MICH. FREE PRESS
APRIL 4, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL BACKED BY MINISTERS

Special to The Free Press.

Kalamazoo, Mich., April 3.—Declaring that the United States must end lynching or lynching will end the United States, the Kalamazoo ministerial alliance, composed of ministers of 45 churches in Kalamazoo county, Monday passed a resolution appealing to congress to enact the Dyer anti-lynching bill. The resolution, which will be forwarded to Senator Charles E. Townsend, declares lynching "a great blot on American civilization."

NEGRO LASH FALLS ON G.O.P. SENATORS TO STOP LYNCHING

N Y C WORLD
MAY 24, 1922

Lodge and Others in Fear of Defeat Demand Act to Hold Colored Voters to Party.

DYER BILL IS REJECTED BY BORAH COMMITTEE.

'Absolutely Unconstitutional." Says Senator—Plan Measure to Pass High Court Test.

(Special to The World.)

WASHINGTON, May 23.—Anti lynching legislation is vehemently demanded by all those Senators who face political crises next autumn. Lodge (Rep.-Mass). is insistent that an effort to meet the requirements of the Negro organizations be made. Others regard the matter as vital.

It is declared that Massachusetts, Indiana, Ohio and some other States, where the Negro population is considerable, will be lost to the Republicans unless something definite is accomplished.

Nothing short of reporting an Anti-Lynching Bill and having it discussed on the floor is demanded by Republican leaders in the Senate. They insist that this must be done, regardless of the constitutionality of the proposition. It is not believed possible such a bill can receive a majority vote in the Senate, although it recently passed the House.

There is a lively exchange of views to-day in the Senate Judiciary Committee. Senator Borah, Chairman of a sub-committee that has been considering the Dyer anti-Lynching Bill, submitted a report declaring the measure "absolutely unconstitutional." He said there was not a peg on which to hinge the assertion of constitutionality.

Borah Rejects Bill.

He said that all decisions of the Supreme Court were to this effect. He recommended that the bill be reported adversely by the full committee and that no action be taken on it.

Senators Overman and Shields, Democrats, agreed with the position announced by Borah. Dillingham, a member of the sub-committee, did not formally outline his views, but he is said to regard the House bill as unconstitutional.

The other Republican member of the sub-committee, Sterling, explained his attitude at some length. He believes the measure as presented is unconstitutional, but feels that the matter of such grave importance that a new bill should be drawn and submitted to the Supreme Court for another opinion.

It became evident from the discussion to-day that Senator Shortridge (Rep.-Cal.) is the only member of the Judiciary Committee who regards the Dyer Bill as constitutional, and favors reporting it as passed by the House.

New Bill Is Planned.

It is likely that an effort will be made to have another sub-committee appointed with instructions to frame a new bill, which may obviate the objections of the Supreme Court. This measure would not hold counties or communities responsible for lynchings, but would take the Sheriff, County Prosecutor, or some other official and seek to punish him if a lynching should occur.

If all attempts to report out a bill fail, the commission plan would be strongly urged. This involves the designation of a Congressional commission to investigate the statutes and court decisions, and formulate a bill. It is thought this might keep the Negro voters in line until after the elections.

BOSTON MASS POST
MAY 27, 1922

POWERFUL SUPPORT

Washington reports that Senator Lodge is moving vigorously to get some action on the Dyer anti-lynching bill that has long reposed in the seclusion of the Judiciary Committee. Also that the Senator wishes that bill, or something similar, to become law before the next elections.

This is powerful support, and it is politically wise. Unless an anti-lynching measure of some practical force is passed pretty soon, the Republican party is bound to lose the large and influential vote of the colored men of the north. They are tired of the same old tragedies, occurring lately with terrible frequency, and with the general immunity enjoyed by the perpetrators. They demand federal aid, and they have the right to expect it.

If Senator Lodge endorses the Dyer bill or one like it, what becomes of the pleas of its foes that such a measure is unconstitutional?

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL LAID AWAY ON SENATE SHELF

Washington, D. C., May 25.—[Special.]—Ignoring the urgent pleas of Senator Lodge [Mass.], Republican senate leader, the senate judiciary subcommittee today virtually shelved the Dyer anti-lynching bill for the remainder of the session.

The committee, several days ago, by a nonpartisan vote of four to one, decided that the measure was unconstitutional. Senator Lodge, nevertheless, urged it to make a report on the bill in order that it would be brought before the senate.

After further discussion today the committee decided to postpone action of all kinds for two weeks, at which time it will confer with members of the house judiciary committee. If members of the senate committee can be convinced the bill does not violate the constitution, they will vote to report the measure. There is little likelihood that they will be so convinced, and the prospects are the measure will not reach the senate in time for action at this session.

Some consideration is given to the suggestion of a commission to study the lynching question.

THE LYNCHING INFAMY

apr. 4. 1922

To the Editor of Current History:

Regarding the article by Charles Frederick Carter, entitled "The Lynching Infamy," that appears in the March number of your publication, we quite agree that Mr. Carter has pointed out a situation that should be no longer tolerated in this land, where every one is supposed to enjoy the equal protection of the laws. We also are of the belief that nothing short of some rigidly enforced Federal act can avail under the present circumstances.

If we are to afford all persons within the jurisdiction of the various States equal protection of the laws, why stop with an Anti-Lynching bill? Why not also secure the enactment of Federal legislation—patterned after the language of the Anti-Lynching bill—providing for severe punishment of public officials that fail to protect unorganized workers who are every day victims of murderous attacks by the agents of closed-shop unionism, of which your institution is a strong supporter?

Is it not true that more human lives have been snuffed out by the agents of closed-shop unionism during the past thirty-five years than is represented in your record of lynchings? Is it not true that these lives have in every instance represented absolutely innocent parties, who were guilty of no crime more serious than the exercise of their lawful right to earn a living for themselves and their dependents? Is it not a fact that, repulsive as lynching may be, it must be admitted that it represents in every case an effort to mete out justice to some lawless character?

Please do not misunderstand us. We hold no brief for those who would take the law into their own hands; but at the same time, if there are blots on our civilization, the one that stands out most prominently is the willful murder of innocent working people; and these crimes are seldom, if ever, rightfully punished.

THE BUFFALO COMMERCIAL,
E. J. McCone, General Manager.

PLAN ANTI-LYNCHING BILL TO STAND TESTS

5/27/22

Commercial Appeal

Borah Says Senate Will Use All Power Framing Measure.

Memphis Tenn.

WASHINGTON, May 26.—Announcement that the Senate judiciary committee in its consideration of the anti-lynching bill, would endeavor to frame a measure that will stand the test of courts and will exhaust every ounce of federal power" in dealing with the situation, was made today by Senator Borah, Republican, Idaho, in reply to an inquiry by a negro organization as to what was to be done in consequence of the committee's decision that the House bill was unconstitutional.

Senator Borah declared that there was no intention on the part of the committee to abandon consideration of the bill but added that the majority of the committee was convinced that to pass the House bill "was wholly futile" for the reason that it would be a statute only until it could be carried before the supreme court of the United States."

Lynchings—1922 Legislation.

(Dyer Bill) National

1059

THE DYER LYNCHING BILL.

Paris Morning News 1/25/22

It appears to be a certainty that the Dyer bill to carry all cases of lynching into the federal courts will pass the house, but will be blocked in the senate. That bill will be blocked this time—but unless there is a change for the better it is going through the senate finally.

Mr. Summers of Texas opposes the bill upon the ground that it is an infringement of State's rights; and in that he is correct.

The great trouble with that view is that there is no such thing as "rights" left the States, in the view in which Mr. Summers contends. They have long since departed; and the democratic party is as much responsible as is the republican party.

The States are becoming mere provinces in many respects and the trend is constantly toward a centralization into a more confirmed form of bureaucratic government.

The States—including Texas—have not put down mob law; and while they have statutes of various sorts designed to punish those guilty of it these statutes are not enforced.

Most citizens condemn mob law in perfunctory manner; but they fear to get out in the open and to insist upon punishment for those who are guilty though they are well known.

Many citizens fear to be put in the position of condemning mob law because the men responsible always seek to make it appear that those condemning the mob are excusing the crimes. Though they know it is not so, and that it is the murder of the accused which is protested.

Most of us fear to appear as condemnatory of the members of the mob because we may offend someone—and the person who was lynched is dead, anyway.

But the Dyer bill is an absolute certainty within a few years even though it fails now.

PUTS MOB CRIME IN JURISDICTION OF U. S. COURTS

Atlanta Constitution

Vote Is Overwhelming for Passage, Final Count Being 230 for to 119 Against.

1/27/22

BELIEVED THAT BILL WILL DIE IN SENATE

No Fight for Amendments, Saying "Vicious Principle" Could Not Be Thus Changed.

By the Associated Press.

Washington, January 26.—The house today declared itself in favor of the government exerting its authority in an effort to stamp out lynching, passing by a vote of 230 to 119 the Dyer anti-lynching bill.

Seventeen republicans joined 102 democrats in voting in the opposition while eight democrats and one socialist, London, of New York, voted with 221 republicans in favor of the measure.

Republicans who voted in the negative were Barbour, California; Brown, Tennessee; Clouse, Tennessee; Curry, California; French, Idaho; Herrick, Oklahoma; Hersey, Maine; Jones, Pennsylvania; Kelley, Michigan; Layton, Delaware; Luce, Massachusetts; Nolan, California; Parker, New Jersey; Robertson, Oklahoma; Sinnott, Oregon; Slemp, Virginia; Stafford, Wisconsin.

Democrats who voted in the affirmative were: Campbell, Pennsylvania; Cockran, New York; Cullen, New York; Gallivan, Massachusetts; Johnson, Kentucky; Mead, New York; O'Brien, New Jersey; Rainey, Illinois.

Provisions of Bill.

The bill provides life imprisonment or lesser penalties for persons who participate in lynchings and for state, county and municipal officers who fail through negligence to prevent them. The measure also stipulates that the county in which mobs form or kill any one shall forfeit $10,000 to the family of the victim.

Democratic opponents of the bill, defeated in attempts to recommit it to the judiciary committee and to strike out the enacting clause, made no concerted effort to have amendments adopted. They declared "the vicious principle of the bill" could not be changed by amendments but expressed confidence that the measure never would receive senate approval.

Except for a few perfecting amendments, offered by Chairman Volstead, of the judiciary committee, amendments proposed by individuals were rejected. One by Representative French, republican, Idaho, would have eliminated the provision requiring counties to forfeit $10,000 to families of mob victims.

Amendments Accepted.

One committee amendment approved removed from the bill the requirement that counties through which a mob passed should pay a $10,000 penalty.

Another one accepted defined a mob as three or more persons acting together to take human life illegally. The bill originally defined a mob as five or more persons acting together.

During debate which continued intermittently for a month, opponents of the measure declared it would be an unconstitutional invasion of state rights and would have a tendency to increase rather than decrease lynching. They also charged that republicans were supporting the proposal for political reasons.

Proponents, however, contended that states, especially in the south, had failed to handle the situation and that to afford all races protection guaranteed them under the federal constitution it was necessary for the federal government to take a hand.

Woman Protests Against Passage of Dyer Bill

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 1/29/22

Editor Constitution: According to the provisions of the bill which the man from Missouri proposes to have congress make a law, a county which avenges its outraged womanhood would have to pay an indemnity of ten thousand dollars to the heirs of the brute that assaulted a woman school teacher even if it necessitated selling the schoolhouse in which she taught, while the friends of the woman who avenged her wrong would be imprisoned in the penitentiary and innocent children of the county be still further deprived of the right of an education by the heavy taxes taken from the schools of the county to pay the life insurance of the rapist.

God pity the man that could so far forget the woman that gave him birth as to frame a bill that would permit of such a horrible discrimination against the purity of womanhood.

Mr. Dyer, in answering the challenge that his bill should be labeled "a bill to legalize rape" says in his speech, quoted in the Congressional Record of January 4, "the crimes and misdemeanors with which men have been charged or of which they were guilty and for which they have been lynched have been so greatly outnumbered by the other class that it is hardly worth while to spend a great deal of time on that." Consider that statement, "It is hardly worth while to spend a great deal of time on the subject of rape"—that statement from a man that is in congress to represent the women of the nation who have been raped as well as the criminals who have been lynched—that statement from a man who says in the same speech "I have taken pains to obtain the best possible information regarding lynchings in the last 35 years or more and I have here a statement prepared by a member of the Tuskegee institute, of Alabama.

"Out of 4,096 lynchings, 810 were for the charge of rape. And yet it isn't worth the while of the eminent Mr. Dyer to consider those 810 outraged women. American womanhood would like to ask the chivalrous statesman from Missouri if only one of the 4,096 lynchings had been for raping a woman, and that one woman had been his sister, his mother or his daughter, would he then consider the matter worth any of his valuable time? Yet the author of this bill has the audacity to stand on the floor of the legislative halls of a nation of men that honors its womanhood, when men are pointing out the fact that his bill will set a premium of $10,000 on every outrage committed against innocent women, and say "it is hardly worth while to consider that."

Georgia has its illiteracy, which Georgia is seeking to stamp out Georgia has its lawlessness, which Georgia is striving to correct. But Georgia never has had and Georgia never will have a representative in the legislative halls of the greatest nation on earth, that will barter the virtue of that nation's womanhood for the votes of a half civilized race.

MRS. WALTON PURDOM.

Sparks, Ga., January 24, 1922.

The South and the Negro.

Commercial Appeal Memphis Tenn. 1/27/22

Representative Bourke Cockran of New York in discussing the anti-lynching bill before the House of Representatives cited some statistics that should be somewhat baffling to a few of the professional haters of the south who are behind the measure. He said that government figures show the total farming wealth of the negro in the south amounts to $2,300,000,000, whereas in the north the total wealth of the negro population is only $63,000,000.

Now, there are some who might say that this discrepancy is due to the greater number of negroes in the south and not to their individual wealth. But government figures prove the contrary. They show that in Michigan, which has received the greatest increase of negro population of any northern state during the past 10 years, the wealth of the negro per capita is only $43, while in Texas it is $343, in Arkansas $449 and in Mississippi $542. Here are facts that cannot be set aside by professional anti-southerners who would make it appear that the negro is being abused in the south.

And we should like to refer these figures to Mr. Julius Rosenwald, of a certain well-known Chicago mail order house, who in speeches in France created some bad racial feeling by telling the negroes that their war service entitled them to better treatment. Now, if Mr. Rosenwald was referring to better treatment in the northern states he was justified, but, in attempting to vindicate his unfortunate remarks, he offers this gratuitous insult to the south:

I never heard any opposition to my sentiments, although there may have been some from some southern boys who did not like to hear the negroes praised.

This is only a patent effort to cover up his own foolishness and lack of judgment. But even if it were so that the southern boys "did not like to hear the negroes praised," it is evident that they have had no objection to allowing the negro to become an independent, self-supporting and prosperous citizen as they seem to have had in the north. As between praise and penury and prosperity and plenty where lies the better treatment?

REPRESENTATIVE ASWELL MISREPRESENTED THE NEGROES OF THE SOUTH

St. Louis Argus 1/28/22

Associated Negro Press

SHREVEPORT, La., Jan. 25.—At an Emancipation Celebration held here by the Negro Citizens of the city, January 1, 1922, the following resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, Representative Aswell of Louisiana, did on the floor of the House of Representatives and through the Public Press, assert that the peaceful and law-abiding Negroes of the South are not interested in the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill, nor legislation to that effect, and

Whereas, we regard lynching as one of the greatest crimes against civilization, and

Whereas, we desire the public to know that Congressman Aswell does not speak the sentiments of the peaceful and law-abiding Negroes of the South; that we not only favor the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill but any other legislation that will insure life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and

Whereas, we favor punishment of all criminals through legal process of law, therefore

Be it resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Congressman Dyer, Representative Aswell, the Speaker of the House and Senate, the Associated Negro Press, and the President of the United States.

CITIZENS COMMITTEE

THE PRESS AND THE MOB.

Montgomery Advertiser 1/22/22

The old and honored Springfield Republican ought to know better than to say that The Courier-Journal and other newspapers in the South objecting to a Federal lynching bill "mask advocacy of lynching behind pretended devotion to State rights." The Courier-Journal was the original proponent of an automatic removal law in Kentucky to prevent lynching, and wishes the present General Assembly would put teeth into the removal law which proved toothless when a lynching occurred in Versailles.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

There isn't a reputable newspaper in the South that has not consistently combatted the mob spirit with vigor and sincerity.

DYER BILL AND SOUTHERN CONSISTENCY.

The action of Southerners in so stubbornly opposing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which passed the house of representatives last week, shows how inconsistent most of the Dixie solons are on so-called federal encroachment of state rights.

It all depends upon where the drop falls and who will be benefited and protected by such national legislation, in the mind and eye of these Southern politicians and demagogues.

When the government stepped in and prescribed rules and regulations for popular election of senators, the South nodded assent.

When the federal government made the famous celebrated eighteenth amendment the law of the land, several Southern states ran a veritable marathon to see which would win the honor of being the first to endorse the "usurpation of federal power," so designated by those who favor national prohibition, but who oppose a federal measure to curb lynching and make America safer for all its citizens.

When the Susan B. Anthony measure, better known as the woman suffrage (nineteenth) amendment, was given congressional endorsement and became the law of the land, the only complaint heard in the South was not because of federal interference or intervention in bestowing such rights upon the womanhood, but because the white South feared that the amendment would accord these new political rights and privileges to colored women, and knowing that colored women cannot be browbeaten and intimidated like colored men, these Dixie bourbons became alarmed and sent out their customary and stereotyped cry of "Negro domination" and "white supremacy."

All federal legislation looking forward to bettering and improving the lot of the farmer, as a group; the different labor factions, as a group; in fact, as long as national legislation does not appear to be favorable to the colored American, it matters not how paternalistic, socialistic, radical or undemocratic such laws and actions might be, the South swallows it gullibly and then has the brazen audacity to brag about its endorsement and embracement of such "encroachments upon state rights."

One of the senatorial aspirants for Culbertson's toga from Texas, said this in his opening announcement, as published in Sunday's papers:

> **"I am against white men lynching black men, North or South. I am also against white men of the North lynching the constitution to make political capital in doubtful states."**

If The Informer can see with any degree of clarity, it strikes this paper that the constitution is not only lynched in the South, but criminally assaulted and outraged as well as politically raped and prostituted.

The name of the South has become almost synonymous with law defiance, as the Southerner boasts of the fact that he will obey no law that meets his disapproval or that fails to come up to his idea of what ought to be the law. But he must be the sole arbiter in such matters.

Unless our memory serves us wrong or unless our knowledge is faulty or our mental engine is missing on several cylinders, it seems like the South has, for years, run rough-shod over the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the American constitution—lynched them after commiting a brutal outrage upon them, with only a feeble objection raised here or there in the North, and that only as political subterfuge and expediency.

Those Southern congressmen opposed the Dyer bill because innately and instinctively they favor lynching—where the victim is a black man or woman and the lynching culprits are white. "Federal police power" and "encroachment of state rights" were not the main cause, nor the minor one.

In time of war the federal government invades the several states and says who shall bear arms and who shall act in other capacities for the successful prosecution of the war.

The national government even goes so far as to say what and how much food the citizens of these states may eat.

Since it is the duty of the national government to seek and labor for its perpetuation and perpetuity by safeguarding its interests along other lines, surely that same government is not violating either the spirit or letter of the constitution when it endeavors to accord and vouchsafe to every American citizen and subject, "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The Informer has never been overly enthusiastic with nor over the Dyer anti-lynching bill, yet this paper has taken cognizance of the rampancy of mobocracy and the disposition of the various states to wink at, condone and tolerate such mobocratic outbreaks and demonstrations. However, stern and stiff action of some nature is imperative!

This paper has ever contended for rigid and strict enforcement of the laws on the statute books, realizing that if amendments to the federal constitution are to be regarded and treated as mere "scraps of paper;" if the South, or any section, is to be permitted to flout defiance in the face of the written laws of the land; if such protective measures are to remain in a state of "innocuous desuetude" and non-enforced, any anti-lynching measure will likely fare cruelly and shamefully at the hands of those who rebel at the idea of the federal government trying to do its duty by all the citizens.

But be that as it will or may. Either these Southern solons are inconsistent politically or else they are monumental hypocrites and four-flushers; for on one issue they favor and support governmental "invasion of state rights," while on the other they change front, jump out of the traces and prove adept as political chameleons.

There is much truth in the saying, "Consistency, thou art a jewel!"

As for the Dyer measure, let us not get too happy and jubilant at this early stage of the game, for there is "many a slip betwixt the cup and the lip," to employ an old, familiar expression.

Let's bestir ourselves and bend every effort and exert all our energy to come into possession of all the rights and privileges accorded other American citizens, for "this is the law and the prophets."

CAUSE AND EFFECT.

The approval of the Dyer anti-lynching bill by an overwhelming vote of nearly two to one in the house of representatives, regrettable as it was, represents an effect which, by the workings of an inexorable natural law, inevitably follows a cause.

In this instance the cause has been the persistence of the mob spirit among the people of this country, and the refusal, of those subject to its influence, to rely upon the law and courts of justice to punish criminals, and to heed repeated warnings that if the states themselves did not put a stop to lynch-law it was inevitable that sooner or later the federal government would intervene and take a hand to that end.

This bill may be defeated by the senate. We hope it will be; but if it becomes law, it will be merely another case of reaping the whirlwind after having sown the wind.

A valiant fight was made against the bill by southern representatives in congress, who pitched their argument mainly upon the theory that the practice of lynching had its origin, and finds what approval it has, largely in the laudable, inherent determination of southern manhood to avenge outraged womanhood.

But, unfortunately, that argument was and is unable to stand against the statistical fact that, while there was a time when mob law was invoked in dealing with only that one type of crime, during recent years there have been many more mob killings for any one of numerous other crimes than for the one crime for which lynching was originally applied.

This bill contemplates a law which we believe is unwarranted and which, in our opinion, will not stand the test of the courts, but if it should become law there is one sure way by which every state and every community may escape its potentially damaging effect; and that is by respecting and upholding the law, by sustaining and reposing confidence in the courts and all instrumentalities of law and order, and by looking to them, and to them only, to redress wrongs and punish crime!

1062

National (Dyer Bill)

Lynchings - 1922 Legislation

LYNCHING AND THE DYER BILL.

Dallas Tex. Express

The American lynching record for 1921 has just been announced and from a study of it we find that mob murders have increased rather than decreased; that law and authority are weaker this year than in former years; that bestial impulses have held greater sway over the American people in the year just closed than in 1920. 1/7/22

The statement compares the records of 1920 and 1921 thus: officers of the law prevented 56 lynchings in 1920; they prevented 72 in 1921. There were 63 actual lynchings in 1921 as compared to 61 in 1920. Of the number of lynchings occuring in 1921, 62 occurred in the South and 1 in the North. 59 of the victims were Negroes and 4 were white; of the Negro victims 2 were women. 19 or less than 1-3 of the victims were charged with rape.

Unless the American people have retrogressed much they will take small pleasure in the contemplation of this record of barbarism which in its frightfulness surpasses the barbarities which the early settlers of this country suffered at the hands of Indian tribes which boasted no civilization and aspired to no world leadership. It is a record which, when carefully considered together with the thousands of other instances of mob activity which have occurred during the past year, should cause true lovers of orderly proceedure to shudder for the welfare of America during the coming years.

An increase of savagery in the "land of the free and the home of the brave" which since 1889 has done 3,433 persons to death without due process of law, means an increased speed in the easy descent to a reign of unbridled passion and license from which state the ascent to a state of decent living will be far more laborious.

And the wonder of it is that in those communities where this savagery is most pronounced, there is the greatest opposition to an attempt at its control.

Almost coincident with the publication of the lynching record comes the announcement that the Dyer Bill, now pending a vote in Congress, is being fought by every known means by representatives of those states in which lynchings have been most frequent. Representatives of South Carolina, Tennessee, North Carolina, Louisiana and Texas have distinguished themselves by the quality of their opposition to this bill aimed at the suppression of lynching which is slowly but surely rendering the work of the founders of our American civilization void and as of no moment. And the states which they represent have contributed greatly to the record of savagery as it has been written in America since 1889. Since 1889 Texas has lynched 333 persons, Louisiana 326. Tennessee 199, South Carolina 128, North Carolina 63. Of this number of persons eleven were women. In the list of states which have been remarkable for their lynching propensities Texas stands second, with its 333, being exceeded in this savagery only by Georgia which leads the country with a total of 428 mob murders since 1889.

It will indeed be deplorable if the better mind of America fails now to assert itself and safeguard American interests from the pillaging hands of her unrestrained citizens who are besmirching her good name and mocking her boasted democracy.

If lynching does not stop the orderly processes of law must stop. The two cannot exist cojointly.

The opposition to the Dyer bill seems to be bassed upon the assumption that it would allow the federal goverment to encroach upon the rights of states and render their sovereignty empty. For this reason it has been called dangerous and it has been prophesied that its passage will be followed by an increase in lynching which federal power will find itself powerless to stop

It may be successfully argued that such reasoning has been largely responsible for the increase of lynching to the point that efforts at its control are now being made by the federal government.

And it is also true that since 1889 every state in which a lynching has occurred has had ample opportunity to exert its sovereignty and pass measures which would have rendered federal intervention at this time unnecessary. But none of them have chosen to do this. And, while it is easy to understand their fear of a loss of sovereignty to the Federal Government when we review the history of the last one hundred years one is prone to feel that now, if ever, they should begin to realize that just as lynching is not purely sectional, neither would federal intervention for its suppression be. And whatever other considerations might arise. they should realize that without some sort of intervention speedily assured, neither their sovereignty nor that of the Federal government will be able to maintain itself nor guarantee its perpetuation.

There must come a time in American life when sectional bitternesses and political bickerings will be lost sight of in the desire that the united efforts of all may be centered upon the highest good of national accomplishment. A nation of lynchers is not worthy of emulation nor can it hope long to maintain itself. A lynching in any state is an American lynching. Any such barbarity has no place in an enlightened government.

Every American state may well realize that such a record for barbarity should be rewritten in terms of orderly proceedure even at the expense of federal cotrol.

OPPOSITION TO THE DYER BILL.

Houston Informer Texas

1/7/22

Press reports emanating from Washington convey the startling, yet not unexpected, intelligence that practically all congressmen from the South are bitterly assailing and stubbornly opposing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which has been favorably reported to the house by the committee on the judiciary.

Most of them are trotting out that old unconstitutional stuff and transgression of "state rights" and such buncombe; while some few have made public speeches in the house in favor of lynching, especially where a criminal assault upon womanhood is the charge.

No wonder this country is rife and pregnant with discord, dissension, bitterness, hatred, intolerance, bigotry, violence, anarchy and insurrection; for when men elected to congress will openly espouse and condone mob-law and Judge Lynch's court, it is nothing to marvel at when the riff-raff and hoi polloi pull off these mobocratic stunts and lynchings of various shapes, forms, fashions and descriptions.

Imagine a United States congressman standing on the floor of congress trying to find fault with and flaws in a measure to minimize lynching and abortions of justice and make the country safer for its citizens!

What do you know about a congressional solon exclaiming in the house of congress: "All the statutes of a state and nation can not stop it (lynching)!"

Most of the opposition from Southern congressmen seems to be inspired by the age-worn charge and over-worked lie of rape upon white women being responsible for lynch law in the South.

A glance at the lynching statistics reveal the fact that of 3434 victims of lynch law since 1889, only 16.6 were accused of committing the "unmentionable crime" upon womanhood.

Therefore 83.4 of those lynched were mobbed and murdered for many and sundry reasons, from being possessors of a dark skin to killing in self-defense, etc.

Take the 1921 record and of the 64 American citizens lynched, less than one-third were even accused of rape or attempted rape.

Why don't these Southern congressmen come clean and tell the world that they want lynching of colored Americans to continue as a means to terrorize said racial group and destroy whatever aspirations and hope they may possess?

The crime has very little to do with the lynching, as the record for 33 years will disclose. Color is the primary and chief cause.

Certain features of the proposed Dyer anti-lynching bill may be drastic and severe, but when the patient is precariously ill with certain ailments it is often necessary for the attending physician to prescribe a so-called strong medicine.

America is ill and her very existence is at stake, due to the widespread rampage of the lynching epidemic and unless some remedy is forthcoming to check its deadly ravages and alleviate the condition of the patient, civil insurrection will stalk abroad throughout the land and chaos and confusion will reign where law and order should prevail.

Any man who can not see what such mobocratic manifestations

and demonstrations will ultimately lead to is too blind, stupid, dense and ignorant to serve as a congressman and he should be relegated to political oblivion.

When it is borne in mind that a Southern congressman was killed participating in the Washington, D. C., riot during 1919, the course of the Dixie representatives against the Dyer bill and in support of mob law is not surprising. They are simply running true to form and appear to be in mid-season shape.

These Southern solons are also beating the air about "state rights," the same cry their forebears raised on the slavery question and secession from the Union.

It has become the cry and lamentation of the enemies of good government and progressive and protective legislation and it bobs up its insidious and infernal head every time a measure is proposed to insure safety, liberty, life and pursuit of happiness to all American citizens.

The states, particularly of the South, have had fully a half century to write into their organic laws measures to protect the weak and punish the offenders and violators of the laws, regardless of creed, class or color.

Yet all the legislation to aid in reducing the lynching evil has been conspicuous by its absence and law enforcement is a huge and ludicrous joke.

But the Dyer bill, or any other bill for that matter, will accomplish very little if the federal machinery is not put into operation to enforce said measure in the event congress writes the measure into the laws of the land.

What this country needs more than anything else is not more laws on the statute books, but a strict and rigid enforcement of the multiplicity of statutes already on the book.

Lax and loose enforcement of the laws begets and breeds contempt and disrespect for said laws.

There is only one way to make men respect and obey the law and that is to enforce them without fear or favor.

Notwithstanding the fact that the proposed Dyer anti-lynching bill is political sop, its passage will serve notice to the lynching colony of this country that sooner or later their name will be "Dennis" and their day passe, and should have a very sobering and steadying effect upon those who flout defiance in the face of constituted authority at the least provocation or pretext.

The opponents of the Dyer bill, despite all their fiery talk and engaging in invectives, innuendoes and "shooting the bull," are offering no substitute nor suggestion for eradicating or reducing to a minimum the lynching evil—America's shame, disgrace and what is calculated to prove the country's undoing and downfall.

Lynch law must go in its many forms and manifestations and since the several states have done absolutely nothing to blot it out, if the republic is to survive and throw some degree of protection around its citizens, congress must act and act at once, in putting a quietus on the activities and depredations of the howling hoodlums and others composing heathenish, hellish and Hunnish mobs throughout the country.

The doctrine of "state rights" is as dead as dodo, in so far as it affects the life, liberty and safety of the citizens of this commonwealth and all the bleatings of the combined Southern congressional personnel can not alter this one pertinent and patent fact.

Republican Raps Anti-Lynch Bill And Lauds South

Atlanta Constitution

Congressmen Stand in Tribute as Maine Member Ends Brilliant Speech.

BY JAMES A. HOLLOMON,
Constitution Bureau,
Raleigh Hotel.

1/11/22

Washington, January 10.—(By Constitution Leased Wire.)—The sensation of the debate on the anti-lynching bill came today when Congressman Ira G. Hersey, a staunch republican of Maine, launched a powerful attack on the bill, arguing exhaustively the unconstitutionality of the bill and pleading with impassioned words against its folly and unfairness.

His republican colleagues sat dumb with astonishment while democrats and some republicans applauded his points with enthusiasm.

Building to his climax, his allotted time was up when Congressman Upshaw yielded the Maine statesman a part of the time already allotted to the Atlanta representative.

Quotes Grady.

As the Maine congressman approached his conclusion, he gripped all by a ringing quotation from Henry W. Grady on the south's problem in settling the race question, following it with an eloquent appeal for national unity, tears standing in the speaker's eyes as he closed and the whole democratic side with several republicans rising to their feet.

Mr. Hersey closed as follows:

"The southern states are enforcing laws today similar to the one provided in this bill, and better than many of the northern states are doing. It is their duty to so enact and enforce such laws. It is not the duty of congress to interfere in the working out of this great problem by the states of the union.

Grady's Teaching.

"Over 30 years ago, the immortal Henry W. Grady left his southern home and made a fraternal visit to the people of the north. He was the best friend the colored people ever had. He told us that the great race problem could not be settled by federal statutes, by sending to the southern states United States marshals and a new force of 'carpet baggers.'

"On the problem that this bill seeks to settle, Grady said:

"'The future holds a problem in solving which the south must stand alone; in dealing with which she must come closer together than ambition or despair have driven her, and on the outcome of which her very existence depends. This problem is to carry within her body politic two separate races, equal in numbers. She must carry these races in peace—for discord means ruin. She must carry them separately—for assimilation means debasement. She must carry them in equal justice—for to this she is pledged in honor and in gratitude. She must carry them even unto the end, for in human probability she will never be quit of either.'

"This burden no other people bears today—on none hath it ever rested. Without precedent or companionship, the south must bear this problem, the awful responsibiliy of which should win the sympathy of all human kind, and the protecting watchfulness of God, alone, even unto the end."

Equal Protection.

"What wonderful progress the south has made in giving to the colored race the equal protection of the laws during the last 30 years. It is not contended by the proponents of this bill that today any state of the union has in its constitution a single provision in violation of the fourteenth amendment of the federal constitution. It is not claimed for a moment that any of the states have now a single statute that discriminates against any person or class of persons. No one claims, as an excuse for this bill, that any state in all this broad land has laws that deprive any person or class of persons of the equal protection of the laws.

"Today each state has its own constitution patterned after and in accordance, conformity and harmony with the constitution of the United States. Every unconstitutional provision of the past that has dicriminated in any manner against the colored race has been swept aside and declared null and void by the supreme court of the United States. Every state has its own legislature that enact laws for the government, guidance and protection of all its citizens. Every state has its courts to construe its laws and dispense justice to its people. Every state has its governors, sheriffs and police officers to enforce its laws. These are sacred rights reserved by the constitution of the United States to the several states, and these rights you and I under oath are sworn to preserve and protect.

A Nation United.

"Since the days of Blaine and Grady, the sons of the Blue and Gray, have fought side by side on land and on sea, first to liberate the slaves of Spain, then next the soldiers of the north and the south, forgetting partisanship and sectionalism, have borne the old flag of the fathers to triumphant victory on the blood-red fields of France, and while I am speaking to you together, the sons of the Blue and the Gray sleep side by side under the poppies of Flanders field. Only yesterday the path of the president was strewn with flowers by the people of the south. Never was this nation more happily united. Here in the capital of the nation we have been spending the past two months with the great leaders of the civilized world. We have been trying to demonstrate how beautiful it is for nations to dwell together in unity.

"In the afterglow of happy Christmas hours through which we have just passed, when our hearts cry out 'peace on earth, good will toward men,' it is no time to enact this monstrous law that can have no other effect or result, that to fan into flames the expiring embers of race and class hatred and bring back again to the beautiful southland the awful horrors of those days of darkness that followed the civil war. God help us as republicans to forget the doubtful political value of this bill and work together, north and south, east and west, for the peace, prosperity, glory and grandeur of a united republic."

Without Constitutional Warrant, Tillman Declares

Commercial Appeal Jan 11, 1922

By R. M. GATES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—Congressman Tillman of Arkansas, in an hour's speech today in the House, vigorously assailed the constitutionality and merits of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. He characterized the measure as "radical, revolutionary, sinister and without constitutional warrant."

"The partisan majority," he said in proposing this bill, are declaring war against the philosophy of our system of government and are seeking to destroy all that is left of local self government and state sovereignty.

"I am against the abominable cult of mob murder, as are all southern public men, the bar, judiciary, press and pulpit, but the measure you propose will multiply, not curtail, lynchings. You are proposing to discredit and destroy state courts, lessen the authority of state officials and encourage conflict between the two sovereignties, weakening both."

He deplored the fact that the advocates of the bill treated with silent unconcern the crime responsible for many southern lynchings and said that 24 hours after Congressman Fess, "the imperial highbrow from Ohio," denounced southern mobs, the offense which provokes frequent mob murders, a negro Thomas Minar, had assaulted a woman within sight of the nation's capitol.

"The law does not favor penalties, and it is not desirable to hold one person for the crime or tort of another, yet this bill seeks to hold a county responsible in the sum of $10,000 if a man is lynched within its borders, even if no citizen of the county participated.

"We will put a stop to lynching in the south," Judge Tillman said, "without long distance interference, just as Massachusetts put a stop to witch burning without long distance interference.

"The Republican members from Massachusetts are supporting this bill and are always complaining that the negro does not have equal political rights, and yet all the Massachusetts members voted against woman suffrage, thereby saying white women should be denied the right to vote, but that criminal and illiterate black men of the south must not have their voting privileges curtailed even by such constitutional laws as the southern states have adopted on the suffrage.

"You say also that some little mountain country, where a lynching occurs, must pay a flat penalty of $10,000 for some dead criminal, worthless if alive, but worth a fortune dead.

"I find it difficult sometimes to understand the Massachusetts conscience or to follow the Massachusetts reasoning, especially when you vote to compel southern counties to pay an appraised rate of $10,000 of the only good money of the world for the body of a colored rapist, when your forebears never thought of charging a southern planter prior to 1860 more than one-tenth of that sum for a vigorous live field hand."

Judge Tillman concluded with this thrust at the Republican party:

"You have deflated corn from $2 a bushel to nothing, and now you propose to inflate criminals from nothing to $10,000 each."

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation.

National (Dyer Bill)

1063

THE PROPOSED FEDERAL ANTILYNCHING BILL

THE New York World, which, generally speaking, is not held by the people of the South to be particularly "friendly" to the South, takes, nevertheless, precisely the same view of the Dyer antilynching bill as the majority of the press of the South, saying in a recent issue almost identically what The Atlanta Georgian said of that unwise measure when it was first proposed several weeks ago.

Atlanta Georgian 1/22/22

The World says:

No newspaper in the country has more consistently and more bitterly fought the lynching evil than the World. But the World is not in favor of lynching the constitution of the United States in order to reach the evil, and particularly when so desperate a remedy would come to nothing.

This is what the so-called Dyer antilynching bill, now being jammed through Congress by the Republican majority, amounts to. Lynching is made a federal crime by this measure, and participators are subject to federal prosecution and localities are held nationally responsible to pay money damages to the families of victims.

If Congress can validly make this kind of offending a federal crime, there is no felony or misdemeanor known to the laws of any State which can not be made a federal crime and imposed upon the federal authority for detection, prosecution and punishment. If then, perchance, there should remain any vestiges of the police power and reserved rights of the States, they could also be swept into the maw of centralization until nothing would be left but the name, and that would soon become but a memory.

Lynching is murder—just plain murder. In its milder forms, it takes on the guise of "night ridings," beatings, tarring and feathering, and the like.

Considering it from the standpoint of murder—and all the sophistry in the world can make it nothing less than murder—the statutes against it are ample. A federal statute would add nothing to the perils and penalties prescribed. It might be advisable to add certain community penalties—as South Carolina does, such as a fine upon the county affected—but that still is for the States to say, not the federal government.

The Georgian firmly believes that the great majority of our people fundamentally and wholeheartedly oppose lynching and despise lynchers. But they are backward about translating their mental opposition into physical opposition. A lynching occurs; it is "deplored" by the best people, including the ministers of the churches and the judges of the courts, and by the vast majority of the bar—be it said to the bar's credit. The women turn almost unanimously in horror from it.

But there the matter ends. Nothing is done; because everybody shrinks from "getting mixed up in the thing," one way or the other. That's a form of plain shirking of civic duty—even cowardice—of course. But there it is, nevertheless.

Lynchings will forever cease in any community when mental disapproval of the same is translated into physical opposition.

THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Montgomery Advertiser 1/4/22

The New York World declares vigorously against the Dyer anti-lynching bill, pending in Congress, saying:

No newspaper in the country has more consistently and more bitterly fought the lynching evil than the World. But the World is not in favor of lynching the Constitution of the United States in order to reach the evil, and particularly when so desperate a remedy would come to nothing.

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The Atlanta Georgian, quoting the foregoing with approval, offers the following sensible comment upon the problem of lynching:

Lynching is murder—just plain murder. In its milder forms, it takes on the guise of "night ridings," beatings, tarring and feathering, and the like.

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Lynchings will forever cease in any community when mental disapproval of the same is translated into physical opposition.

Lynching is a local evil. It has no interstate character, and so the favorite method of Congress of attacking evils by amending the interstate commerce act strangely enough, hasn't been suggested in connection with the proposed legislation. So long as the lynching evil is necessarily local in character, local authorities and local citizens should deal with it, just as they deal with other local crimes. If the people are ready to transfer their entire criminal docket to Federal courts and accept Federal jurisdiction and discipline in every department of life, then there can be no objection to transferring the responsibility of putting down mobs to the Federal Government. Federal court dockets already are over-crowded and Federal authorities, in coming up for air, are calling for help. Only recently, the Attorney-General, Mr. Daugherty, appealed to State officials everywhere to step in and assume their full responsibility for the enforcement of laws so as to relieve the onerous burdens which the Federal authorities are carrying.

Federal forces can do no more to put down mobs than State authorities have done.

It is the duty of State authorities, however, not to relax their vigilance. Our American lynching record stains the escutcheon of the Nation, and it is the duty of every good citizen to give his support to the courts that must grapple with the lynching problem. It is the disposition of executives and courts to deal vigorously with lynchers. They are quick to check up the question to juries, but juries are not as a rule as dutiful in the matter as they should be. The pulpit, the press and other influential agencies throughout the country, in the South no less than in other sections, have for years condemned mobs and done their bit toward creating a public sentiment hostile to the lyncher. And it can be said that their efforts have not been fruitless. The attitude of the average man toward the lyncher has undoubtedly been modified in recent years.

DEBATE IS STARTED IN HOUSE ON DYER ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 1/5/22

Democratic Opponents Conduct Determined Filibuster — Three Hours Are Spent in Roll Calls.

MONDELL PREDICTS EARLY VOTE ON BILL

Dyer Presses Need for Protection of Negroes. Texan Assails Lynching Statistics.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Washington, January 4.—Debate on the Dyer anti-lynching bill got under way today in the house despite a determined filibuster on the part of democratic opponents of the measure. Three hours were spent in roll calls demanded by Representative Garrett, Tennessee, democratic leader, in a futile attempt to head off discussion.

Half of that time later was given over to debate by Representative Dyer, republican, Missouri, author of the bill, and Representative Sumners, democrat, Texas, one of the leaders in the fight against it, who reiterated arguments advanced by them in the majority and minority views of judiciary committee members when the bill was favorably reported.

The measure is to be set aside tomorrow for consideration of the treasury appropriation bill, which will have right of way until it is sent to the senate. Representative Mondell, republican leader, in a statement today predicted a vote in the near future on the Dyer bill, but stated that debate on it would be interagreed with various appropriation bills which will come from the house appropriations committee in rapid succession.

Mr. Dyer in opening debate on his measure declared it was imperative that the federal government afford protection to persons liable to suffer violence at the hands of mobs. He told of a number of lynchings that had occurred where the man killed had not been guilty of attacks on women. During his remarks Mr. Dyer paid tribute to the service rendered by negro soldiers overseas and contended that members of that race were entitled to protection from the federal government.

Mr. Sumners, attacking the authority for a number of Mr. Dyer's statistics on lynchings, declared passage of the bill would increase rather than decrease mob violence and would have a tendency to engender race hatred. He assailed the measure on constitutional grounds, contending it would be an invasion of states' rights and devoted much of his time to discussion of the constitutional phase of the question.

The World On Lynching

Baltimore Am. 1/6/22

The New York World, to use a figure of speech, gave a good bucket of milk in exposing the Ku Klux Klan and now proceeds to kick the bucket over by opposing the passage of the anti-lynch-

ing bill. 1/6/22

The inference is that the World opposed Ku Kluxism because the Klan practices its violence upon Jews and Catholics and wants no anti-lynching measure passed by Congress because it will benefit colored people most. To use another figure, the World kicked against Ku Klux, because the World's own ox was gored.

Says the World this week, the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill will antagonize local sentiment in the South, Congress has not the constitutional authority to pass the bill, and furthermore lynchings are on the decrease, indicating that the South itself will stop lynching in time.

The World was willing to antagonize Germany by going to war to stop the submarines from sinking ships with Americans on board, and willing to antagonize the Spaniards by going to war to stop the massacre of Spaniards in Cuba, but it is not willing to stop the Southern Huns and bandits who last year lynched sixty-four men and women, black Americans. The World's memory is short or it would recall that these same Southerners, white of face like the World, have lynched more American citizens than the Germans and the Spaniards killed altogether in both wars.

If the Dyer Bill is unconstitutional, the World ought to know that we have a Supreme Court for the very purpose of passing upon this phase of the matter, and that it is common sense to know that any body which can pass laws keeping its citizens from TAKING A DRINK, can also pass such laws as WILL PREVENT THE SAME CITIZENS FROM BEING LYNCHED.

DYER BILL TO BE USED AS PAWN

Southern Senators Said to Be Seeking Some Such Arrangement

1/1/22.

Washington Tribune

Will House bill number 13, known as the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill be used as a pawn by the Republicans in bargaining for Southern support of certain measures which they want to put thru this session of Congress? This question looms up as the result of the dilatory tactics of the Republicans in the House and by the language of the bill itself.

Mr. Dyer comes from a district in Missouri in which the colored vote holds the balance of power. He has introduced a similar bill before, just in time to catch the ear of his colored voters and they have accepted his word for his sincerity which upon close examination will be found to be "insincerity." All that Mr. Dyer seeks is to be returned as a representative in the coming election in November.

In his appearance before the Rules Committee to obtain a special rule to bring the bill before the House, Mr. Dyer made a very poor showing. His arguments were weak and disconnected. Senator Burton of Kansas made a far better impression on the Committee than did Mr. Dyer. The chairman of the Rules Committee, Mr. Campbell of Kansas, demonstrated more interest in the bill and its appearing before the House than did Mr. Dyer the author.

Representativ eSommers of Texas, who brought in a minority report against permitting the bill to go before the House, made a better showing before the Rules Committee than did Mr. Dyer.

The Dyer Bill in its present form, is claimed to be unconstitutional; and J. Weldon Johnson of the N. A. A. C. P. is using that organization to hoodwink the people concerning this bill.

Neither the economic nor the polical salvation of the Negro lies in the enactment of more legislation; but rather in the national enforcement of the Constitution and the laws already enacted. Let the Constitution which guarantees "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" to all of its citizens, and 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the Constitution, be enforced and the Negro will be satisfied.

ANTI-LYNCHING LAW UNNECESSARY FOR ALABAMA, SAYS HARWELL DAVIS

Montgomery Advertiser Ala 1/8/22

Tells Senator Shields Adequate Legislation Is on Statute Books

Does Not Believe Congress Has Power to Pass Bill Pending

Attorney General Harwell G. Davis is of the opinion that so far as Alabama is concerned, the enactment of a federal anti-lynching law is unnecessary. He has so advised United States Senator John K. Shields, who recently addressed a letter to attorney generals in all states asking their opinion concerning federal action on this subject proposed in a bill by Representative Dyer, of Missouri. Alabama's laws for the suppression of lynching, Attorney General Davis declares, are ample and framed along lines designed for their rigid enforcement.

It is also stated by Attorney General Davis that he is unable to see how congress can validly enact such a law as is proposed. "I thought," he declares in his letter to Senator Shields, "that the announcement of the supreme court of the United States in the case of the United States vs. Harris, 106 U. S. 638, and many similar cases, were to the effect that 'Congress did not have the power, either express or implied, to pass laws for the suppression of crime within the States.' In its last analysis any law, seeking to vest federal courts with jurisdiction of 'lynching cases,' amounts to passing laws to suppress crime within the states."

The attorney general states he is unalterably opposed to lynching and believes that every legitimate effort should be made to punish those who engage in mob violence. "But," the attorney general says, "even if federal legislation could be validly enacted, vesting in federal courts the jurisdiction to try such cases, I do not think that such federal legislation would serve in Alabama to materially assist in suppressing lynching."

He gives five txcellent reasons for this view, among them that "My observation leads me to believe that the state administers severer punishment for the violation of the criminal laws than do the federal courts." And also that "The judicial and executive officers of the State of Alabama are as high-minded, patriotic, and as fearless in the discharge of their official duties as are the federal officers."

"Where death results from mob violence, or the assault is with intent to murder, prosecution is under the general statutes against murder and assault with intent to murder. Murder in the first degree may be punished by death (Criminal Code Alabama 1907, Section 7088), and an assault with intent to murder may be punished by imprisonment in the penitentiary at not less than two nor more than twenty years (Criminal Code Alabama 1907, Section 6307). Where mob violence is an assault, there is a special statute which provides severer penalties for assaults by mobs than for simple assault. (Criminal Code Alabama 1907, Section 7388.)

So anxious has this state been to suppress mob violence that the people included in the constitution of the state provision for the impeachment of sheriffs where a prisoner suffered death or grievous bodily harm owing to the neglect, connivance, cowardice or other grave fault of the sheriff.

Right to Call Militia

"The Alabama statutes also provide that the governor, and in some instances, the circuit judges or sheriffs, may use the state militia to suppress mob violence. For this purpose the governor may transfer trained policemen to any part of the state.

"An act approved September 28, 1920, empowered the governor to employ a special force of not over thirty men as state law enforcement officers. These men are under the immediate direction of the governor, and are vested with the authority of sheriffs.

"By virtue of an act approved September 22, 1915, the attorney general of Alabama is given supervision of the prosecutions for crime, empowered to transfer prosecuting solicitors to different duties in the state, and authorized to employ such assistants and incur such expenses as may be necessary in the investigation of violations of the criminal law and in the prosecution of crime.

"In my opinion, it is not the lack of statutes to punish persons participating in mob violence, but the failure to punish results from the difficulty of securing evidence justifying a conviction.

"The passage of laws of questionable constitutionality, regardless of the desirability of the results sought to be thereby obtained, indicates a willingness to disregard our organic laws where its provisions contravene our purposes.

"While I an a states' rights, democrat, yet I realize that there are some subjects which cannot be effectively handled except by federal legislation, but I do not believe that lynching falls within this class."

N. Y. C. TELEGRAM
JANUARY 9, 1922

Long Record of Lynchings.

In thirty-five years there have been 4,096 lynchings in the United States, according to tabulations presented in the House of Representatives. An appalling record and one which Americans in general can contemplate with shame! The lynching abuse has not diminished with advancing years. There is something wrong with a civilization in which such disregard of the law can thrive and the question arises, What is it?

The fundamental occasion for lynching probably will be found in distrust of the law, belief that through delays which can be effected by reason of the cumbrous machinery under which criminal courts operate justice is hamstrung.

Correction of the lynching abuse may follow rigid federal supervision of the activities of the law enforcers of the States, but the material diminution of the evil will arrive when the law courts operate with precision and dignified despatch.

N. Y. C. SUN
JANUARY 9, 1922

Records on Lynchings.

Just how great an evil lynching has been in this country is indicated in records which Representative DYER of Missouri has presented to the House of Representatives. His figures show that in the last thirty-five years there have been 4,096 lynchings and that only 810 of the victims were accused of crimes against women.

If Mr. DYER's data are right, the causes of unlawful executions are not precisely what some apologists have appeared to make out. Less than one-fifth of the slain persons are listed as even charged with the sort of offense that apologists hold to extenuate mob action. Whether those so accused were actually guilty no one will ever know beyond a doubt. Many of those lynched probably were criminals and deserved punishment. That fact does not justify the action of mobs; nor in the absence of trial can one form any idea of how many of the lynchers actually were transgressors.

A record of 4,000 lynchings is enough to shock a believer in American standards of justice. Perhaps the House debate indicates that the conscience of the nation is aroused. One can wholly agree with Mr. DYER as to the magnitude of the evil, whether or not one may feel prepared to believe that the Supreme Court would hold the Federal Government capable under the Constitution to try alleged lynchers, as his bill proposes.

NEGROES HERE HAIL VICTORY.

Call Passage of Dyer Bill One of the Biggest Events in Our History.

New York Sun 1/12

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People issued a statement last night which said:

"The passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill in the House of Representatives this afternoon by a vote of 230 to 119 is one of the most significant steps ever taken in the history of America. It means that after fifty years of shame, during which more than 4,000 human beings have been murdered by mobs, Congress, speaking for the American people, has finally set the stamp of disapproval on mob murder.

"For the negro it means that continual agitation has at last been answered and the appeal of the colored man to Congress for relief from mob violence has at last been granted. The fight is not yet over, however. Every citizen who believes in orderly government instead of rule by mob should make it his duty to do all in his power to see to it that the bill is passed by the Senate at an early date."

Lynchings - 1922. National (Dyer Bill).
Legislation.

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BUFFALO N Y NEWS
JULY 24, 1922

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS INDORSE DYER BILL

Recent "Inhuman and Unconstitutional Treatment" of Negroes.

The Knights of Pythias of North America, South America, Asia, Africa and Australia at the closing session of their 33d annual conference here endorsed and pledged their support of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. They agreed that drastic action must be taken by congress to put an end to what they termed "inhuman and unconstitutional treatment" of the negroes in the South.

The delegates passed a resolution expressing appreciation of their treatment while in Buffalo. The 1923 convention will be held in Binghamton.

Officers elected for next year are: Grand chancellor, Lee Crawford, New Rochelle; grand vice chancellor, B. F. Bundy, Rochester; master of exchequer, R. L. Zeno, Brooklyn; keeper of the records and seal, J. R. B. Whitney, New York; grand auditor, M. R. Lacey, Buffalo; secretary reserve fund, S. A. Barnett, Yonkers; treasurer reserve fund, P. Cumberpatch, Brooklyn; supreme representatives, Dr. R. R. Josnston, New York, Dr. M. E. Chaplin, New Rochelle.

MIAMI FLA. HERALD
JULY 8, 1922

TRYING TO HUMBUG THE PUBLIC.

Some of the northern papers are beginning to see the light on the Dyer anti-lynching bill, and are protesting against the proposal to push it through congress in spite of its obvious unconstitutionality. The utter folly of cluttering up the supreme court with legislation which it is clear even to the lay mind must be thrown out, is the subject of a number of recent editorials.

The Washington Post, under the heading, "Passing the Buck," says:

> It is stated that some senators who voted for a favorable report of the Dyer anti-lynching bill from the judiciary committee doubt the constitutionality of the measure, but think "the bill should be enacted and put up to the supreme court." If the supreme court, in the exercise of the duty imposed upon it, confirms the doubt, there will be another hue and cry over the abuse of judicial authority and reiteration of radical demands for abrogating the power of the highest tribunal to set aside acts of congress.
>
> The supreme court has enough to do interpreting and construing acts passed upon in good faith without having to bear the burden and not infrequently the odium of pulling congressional chestnuts out of the fire. The courageous legislator is the one who votes his honest convictions in a case like this, even when he knows that his action may not be popular and even when he may sympathize with the object which a measure of doubtful constitutionality seeks to attain.

The Post clearly points out one of the reasons for much of the criticism of the courts. Legislation, often desirable in its purpose but so carelessly drawn as to antagonize the very constitution, must of necessity be thrown out by the courts. The unthinking public cannot see the real reason for the decision, and blames the court with a purpose to oppose the desirable end sought in the law. There is no needed reform of bad conditions which cannot be accomplished constitutionally. If congress will spend less time juggling over legislation which the country does not want, and will devote some of its energy to framing in a legal fashion legislation which is needed, the courts will be freed of a great deal of criticism which should not justly be directed against them.

Much the same idea is presented in an editorial in the Hartford Times, which can hardly be accused of excessive sympathy with the south in its stand on the Dyer bill. The Times declares that whatever the people of the country may think of the brutality of lynching, there is no excuse for the favorable report on the Dyer bill after it had been studied by a majority of a sub-committee and declared to be clearly unconstitutional in its abridgement of states rights. The Times places the blame for this report on Senator Lodge, and says:

> Some of the republican senators who voted to report the bill are said to have declared earlier that the bill was probably unconstitutional and could not be enforced. In other words, republican senators have gone through the hokus-pokus of reporting an unworkable bill, which they believe to be contrary to the constitution, so that Senator Lodge may tell the negroes of Boston this fall that he has done something about lynching in the south. By the time the futility of the Dyer act is established in the courts, Senator Lodge hopes to be back in the senate, and then it won't matter.
>
> Everybody knows that, even should the bill turn out to be constitutional, it will not prevent lynching. You cannot prevent lynching in the south by federal law, denying to the states jurisdiction over their local affairs, unless you are prepared to occupy the south and inaugurate the carpet-bag era all over again.

It is about time that this sort of hokus-pokus should end in congress. The people are beginning to be weary of being humbugged by their representatives in the national legislature.

1064

VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

SENATOR SHORTRIDGE REPORTS ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

New York Age 8-5-'22

On last Friday Senator Samuel M. Shortridge of California rose in his place in the Senate and addressed the chair as follows:

> *Mr. Shortridge*: Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent, by direction and on behalf of the Judiciary Committee, to report with amendments the Bill (H. R. 13) to assure to persons within the jurisdiction of every State equal protection of the laws and to punish the crime of lynching, and I submit a report (No. 837) thereon.
>
> *The President pro temporo*: Is there objection? The Chair hears none, and the report will be received.
>
> *Mr. Shortridge*: I also ask unanimous consent that the report may be printed in the *Record*, and, in addition, I desire to give notice that I shall seek and take advantage of the earliest opportunity to bring the bill before the Senate for its consideration.
>
> *The President pro temporo*: Without objection the report submitted by the Senator from California will be printed in the *Record*.

Senator Shortridge thereupon filed the report of the majority of the Senate Judiciary Committee. The report occupies thirty-two printed pages and includes not only the text of the Bill as slightly amended by the Judiciary Committee but also the report which was made by the Committee on the Judiciary of the House when the Bill was reported in the House of Representatives, together with the briefs that were submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee by Mr. Moorefield Storey and Mr. Herbert K. Stockton, and the letter from Attorney General Daugherty endorsing the constitutionality of the Bill. Thus the report marshals the strongest arguments that have yet been brought forward in support of the constitutionality of the measure.

The report ends with the following statement on the part of the majority of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

> The committee has devoted much time and earnest thought to the consideration of this bill and has reached the conclusion that as amended the bill is constitutional and should pass. That conclusion is reached by different processes of reasoning and by reliance on different provisions of the Constitution; but whatever process of reasoning is adopted or whatever provisions of the Constitution are relied on we hold that the proposed legislation is "appropriate legislation" to cure or prevent the evil of lynching wherever in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof that evil exists or is committed.
>
> White or black "all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States," and no State may by affirmative legislative, judicial or executive action, or by failure, neglect, or refusal to act, deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, or deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.
>
> A careful and dispassionate study of the provisions of this bill as amended will, the committee thinks, convince Senators that it is "appropriate legislation," within the competency of Congress to enact, to safeguard and protect those rights to life, liberty, and property which are guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.
>
> The proposed legislation is not, and should not be considered, in any sense sectional. The evil it is designed to cure is not confined to

any particular section or State, north or south, east or west. This monstrous evil, which is a disgrace to the Nation, we should strive to wipe out by a firm and just exercise of every legitimate power conferred upon and residing in the Federal Government.

The proposed legislation is not an invasion or subversion of the rights of the States, nor is it designed to relieve the States from the performance of their duty to secure to all persons within their several jurisdictions equal protection of the laws; on the contrary, the proposed legislation is in aid of the several States and will be impartially administered by the people of the several States.

It is sincerely hoped and confidently believed that the early passage of this bill as amended will have a salutary effect and go far toward insuring that "equal protection of the laws," State and Federal, to which "all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof" are entitled.

American citizenship is indeed a *badge of honor*: it should be and this bill seeks to make it, a *shield of protection* to every American citizen, man, woman and child, native and naturalized, who stands on American soil, hedged round and guarded, as they are, by the Constitution of the United States.

This favorable report by the Senate Judiciary Committee is the final step to be taken before debate and vote on the measure and removes the last constitutional objection to the Bill. As long as the Judiciary Committee deferred its report, just so long could members of the Senate plead that reluctance to pass the Bill was based on doubts as to its constitutionality. No longer can that excuse be offered.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill has been declared constitutional by the Judiciary Committee of both the House and the Senate and by many eminent jurists and lawyers all over the country. Now as never before every person in the country who is interested in this measure should put forth all the strength possible in the last great effort necessary to put the bill through the Senate.

We urge every person in the country who is interested to send a telegram at once to each of the senators from his state and one to Senator Henry Cabot Lodge, Republican leader of the Senate, urging immediate vote on the Bill. Three-fourths of the ight is over. We should go further with the determination of putting the other fourth over before the November elections.

PRESIDENT IS "FEARFUL"

St. Louis Argus

In reply to the appeal of the women to use his influence toward the passage of the Anti-lynching bill, President Harding says he was "fearful" that the bill would not be passed during the present session giving as one of his excuses, the Tariff and Bonus bills which are now before the Senate.

The natural comment which enters the minds of those who are interested in the bill is, that life is cheap. The preservation of life is secondary to the President and the Senate. And while we have some appreciation of the importance of the Tariff and the Bonus bill, but we would ask the question of those who make the laws, which is of more importance?

8-18-22

The colored people are peculiarly interested in the anti-lynching bill, because it is they and their who are victims. They know that as long as one of their number is lynched in Georgia, or Texas with impunity, the life of no Negro is secure from mob law in New York or Massachusetts.

With our limited knowledge of the power and influence of the President of the United States, and the power and influence of the leaders of the Republican party, which is now in power, we cant see why the President should be "fearful" that any measure would not pass in which they were really interested.

We are informed that President Harding is in consultation daily with his Cabinet and party leaders about all such legislation in which he is interested. We are wondering what is he doing toward the anti-lynching bill.

As chief executive of the Nation, it is the duty of the President to be interested, not merely passive in those things which affects the Nation. If at this stage of the game, the President is fearful, we want to know is he "fearful" of doing his duty? Is he fearful that he will not have the courage to urge the Senate to pass a bill for the protection of life?

We hope that fear will be removed from the President's heart, and courage to do his duty will enable him to act speedily in the interest of humanity.

Dyer Bill Support Wins For W. Virginia Senator

New York Times 8-6-22

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, according to an announcement made here today by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, was the biggest single issue and played a very important part in the recent primary elections in the State of West Virginia, the information being based on a report received from T. G. Nutter, member of the West Virginia State Legislature and president of the Charleston, W. Va., branch of the N. A. A. C. P. Through its West Virginia branches the Advancement association urged that two issues be made most prominent, one of them being the Dyer bill, and the other, opposition to the Ku Klux Klan. As a result of these efforts and others put forth by the colored citizens of the State, Senator Sutherland, who has been a friend of the Negro, took an open and above-board attitude in favor of the Dyer bill, and declared in a number of speeches delivered during the campaign that he would vote for the bill, and do all he could to get an early and favorable vote upon it by the Senate. According to Mr. Nutter's report, the colored vote, amounting as it did to at least 30,000 played a very prominent part in the renomination of Senator Sutherland, and in the election of other friends of the race and in the defeat of known enemies.

Seek Defeat of N. J. Dyer Bill Enemy

Chicago Defender 6-24-22

Pointing out that R. Wayne Parker, congressman from the Ninth congressional district of New Jersey was the only New Jersey congressman who voted against the Dyer bill when it was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People made public a letter sent to its Newark and Orange branches urging Race voters to do everything in their power to defeat Mr. Parker, who is a candidate for re-election.

In the letter the association pointed out that the Dyer bill has given Colored voters a clear-cut issue on which to determine who are the friends and who are the enemies of the Race in the lower House of Congress and emphasized that unless the threats of Race voters, made when the Dyer bill was being debated in the House of Representatives to defeat every congressman who voted against the bill, if it lay within their power, that Race voters might as well keep their mouths shut in the future unless men like Mr. Parker are defeated.

This action against Mr. Parker is in line with efforts being made by the association against Congressman Patrick J. Kelley of Michigan and Caleb R. Layton of Delaware, who were the only congressmen from their respective states, like Mr. Parker, who voted against the Dyer bill.

Lynchings-1922
Legislation

(Dyer Bill) National

1065

ON THE TRAIL OF THE MOB

MILWAUKEE WIS. LEADER
JANUARY 7, 1922

In our highly "civilized" country 63 persons were lynched in 1921.

In 1920, 61 persons were lynched. Which shows what rapid progress we are making in "civilization." Perhaps if we plod along patiently we may in time reach such a lofty pinnacle of "civilization" that we will lynch 100 persons each year.

The Tuskegee institute has gathered some statistics regarding the 1921 lynchings.

Of the 63 lynchings, 62 occurred in the south and one in the north. Of those lynched, 59 were Negroes and four were whites. Two of the Negroes were women. Less than one-third of those lynched—19 to be accurate—were charged with rape or attempted rape. Of the four whites, one was charged with rape. Of the 59 Negroes, 18 were charged with rape or attempted rape.

The other three whites were charged with murder.

Of the other Negroes, 11 were charged with murder, 3 with attempted murder, 4 with killing men in altercations, 4 with wounding men, 2 with furnishing ammunition to a man who was resisting arrest, 2 with being leaders in a race clash, 1 with assisting a man to escape who had killed an officer, 1 with making improper remarks to a woman, 1 with threatening to kill, 1 with entering a young woman's room, 1 with insulting a woman, 1 with writing a note to a woman, 1 with attacking a man and woman. Against 3 there was no special charge, and there were 5 others against whom no charge was reported.

Two of these lynchings occurred in Alabama, 6 in Arkansas, 5 in Florida, 11 in Georgia, 1 in Kentucky, 5 in Louisiana, 14 in Mississippi, 1 in Missouri, 4 in North Carolina, 5 in South Carolina, 1 in Tennessee, 7 in Texas, and 1 in Virginia.

In 72 instances the officers of the law are credited with having prevented lynchings—8 places in the northern states and 64 places in the southern states.

Congressman Dyer of Missouri has introduced in the lower house of congress an anti-lynching bill which makes lynching a federal crime, to be tried in the federal courts instead of the state courts. It also makes it a crime for officers in the states to neglect to take reasonable precautions to prevent lynchings. It provides for a forfeiture of $10,000 from any county in which a lynching occurs. This forfeiture is to be paid to the relatives of the victims. If there are no relatives, it is to be paid into the United States treasury.

The bill was debated in the house Wednesday—and then postponed to make way for the treasury appropriation bill.

It is reported that a vote on the Dyer bill will be taken in the near future. As Dyer is a Republican, there is considerable probability that the bill will pass the lower house. The Democrats are opposed to it.

The Republicans have scandalously neglected the Negroes. This bill is an effort to hold the Negro vote. It is a cheap way to do it—for the Republicans can't lose anything by making lynching a federal offense. Such a law might accomplish a little in the way of preventing lynchings—especially the forfeiture of $10,000 by the county. That part hits the taxpayers on their most touchy nerve—the one that connects with the pocketbook.

But there is a "good" Republican ex-president at the head of the supreme court. If the law is passed, that body may declare it unconstitutional—in which case the Republicans will assert that they did all they could to help the Negroes in this matter but that the constitution stood in the way.

Meanwhile the Republicans will go right on discriminating against Negroes, and perpetuating the savage conditions which make for lynching.

THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Senator Harrison Argues Against and Representative Burton for Proposed Act

New York Times
2/14/22

CONGRESS having taken one legislative step in the direction of prohibiting lynching by Federal enactment now [illegible] to go on. On Jan. 26 the House of Representatives, by the overwhelming vote of 230 to 119, passed a measure which would hold States and governmental subdivisions thereof responsible for the protection of life against mob violence through the imposition of a Federal fine, but the bill is now pigeonholed in the Senate Judiciary Committee.

When the measure was under consideration in the House the charge was made repeatedly by Democratic opponents of the legislation that the bill was political in nature, drafted and championed for the purpose of capturing the colored vote of the nation for the Republican Party. It was asserted scores of times that the enactment of such a law would increase, rather than decrease, the number of lynchings in Southern States, because the negro would construe the act, so its opponents declared, as Federal protection in the commission of certain crimes.

During the lengthy debate which preceded the final vote on the bill in the House many of the Republicans who had championed the measure on the floor expressed doubt as to whether it would not have been better judgment to have deferred bringing the question involved to an issue at this time. Consequently the action of the Senate Judiciary Committee in postponing consideration of the bill has not occasioned great surprise at the capital. Senator Knute Nelson of Minnesota, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has shown no disposition whatever to direct the attention of his colleagues to the proposed legislation.

If an anti-lynching law were placed on the statute books in the form it passed the House of Representatives the State or governmental subdivision thereof that failed through its officers "to make all reasonable efforts to prevent persons from being put to death" or "failed, neglected or refused to make all reasonable efforts in apprehending or prosecuting any person participating in a mob or riotous assemblage," would be held guilty of a felony and subject to imprisonment not exceeding five years, $5,000 fine, or both.

Persons participating in a lynching would be subject to life imprisonment by the Federal act. The county in which the lynching occurred would be subject to a forfeit of $10,000 by the Federal Government, the money so derived to be turned over to the relatives of the person who had been lynched. Under the terms of the bill enacted by the House any assemblage of five persons having for its purpose the taking of a human life unlawfully would be a "mob or riotous assembly" within the meaning of the act.

Lynching, which takes its name from Charles Lynch, who lived from 1736 to 1796 in one of the southwesterly counties of Virginia and who formed a vigilance committee to give punishment to offenders, has resulted in the death of more than 3,000 persons in the last two decades.

Number of Lynchings.

"In the thirty years from 1889 to 1918," says the report of the House Judiciary Committee on the pending anti-lynching bill, "3,224 persons were lynched, of whom 2,522 were negroes, and of these fifty were women. The North had 219; the West, 156; Alaska and unknown localities, 15; and the South, 2,834, with Georgia leading with 386 and Mississippi following with 373. Yet in Georgia negroes paid taxes on 1,664,368 acres and owned property assessed at $47,423,499. Of the colored victime 19 per cent. were accused of rape and 9.4 per cent. of attacks upon women. In the year 1919, 77 negroes, 4 whites and 2 Mexicans were lynched. Ten of the negroes were ex-soldiers; one was a woman. During 1920 there were 65 persons lynched; 6 were white and 59 were negroes; 31 were hanged, 15 shot, 8 burned, 2 drowned, 1 flogged to death, and 8, manner unknown. Twenty-four were charged with murder, 2 assault on a woman, 15 attack on woman, 3 insulting woman; 1 attack on boy; 1 stabbing man, and 3 assaulting man.

"The Congress must provide the means of ending this cowardly crime," the report adds. "It is in punishing those who take part in it or who permit it that Congress has the power to enact this bill into law."

Many of the opponents of the bill contend that Congress has no such authority. They hold that such an act would be unconstitutional.

"My view is," said Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi, "that this legislation would be unconstitutional, because it would seek to take from the States and counties the right to try men under the police powers of the State."

When Senator T. H. Caraway of Arkansas, representing a State having a population almost equally divided between black and write, was asked to give the Southern viewpoint of the pending anti-lynching bill, he said:

"To start in with, I take the position that the Congress has no power to enact legislation to deal with crimes within a State. Exclusive jurisdiction is given to the States to deal with crimes, except when they are committed on Government reservations. We all swear to uphold the Constitution, and it's clear we have no right to enact a law in violation of it.

"Beyond that the psychology of the negro's mind is peculiar. He has a very great deal of respect for Federal authority, but very little for the State, since all he knows about government is that emancipation was proclaimed by the President, and that his freedom is due to the Federal Government. Therefore, as I say, he has great respect for the Federal Government, but none for the local. If such legislation as this is passed it will fix the belief in the negro's mind that a guarantee is given him, and that he may execute his desires whether they run in legal, lawful lines or not.

"If such a bill is put on the statute books, in my country, where the population is so equally divided between the two races, a man will have to stand over his family with his gun. It will be construed as an invitation to commit crime, and it is extended by the only authority that the negro concedes has the right to speak.

Opposition to Measure.

"In my own State we have quite a goodly number of people born in the States north of the Mason and Dixon line, reared to maturity there, who have come to live among us. Some are Democrats and some are Republicans, but sentiment is 100 per cent. against enactment of this legislation, irrespective of the place where the white man lived before he came to Arkansas. When the people realize the conditions in the South and the peril this bill invites, they are unalterably opposed to it.

"There is a pretty general belief, since there is a provision in the bill for the payment to the family of the one who may be lynched of $10,000 to be collected from the county, that the opportunity to sell one's relative to have him lynched will inspire some people to organize the lynching party. That is by no means a visionary objection."

Former Senator Theodore E. Burton of Ohio, now a Representative in Congress from Cleveland, made an intensive study of lynching for many weeks before the Anti-Lynching bill came before the House for passage, and in a large measure led the fight on the floor for the supporters of the legislation. The Northern and opposing view to that taken by Senator Caraway was expressed by Senator Burton as follows:

"Charles Lynch, from whom lynching gets its name, with others in a time of trouble from Tories and lawless persons, during the Revolutionary War, formed a kind of Vigilance Committee, meting out punishment to offenders. However, they never claimed the right to take life. Castigation, whipping or something of a similar nature was the limit of their activities. His actions were justified by resolutions passed by the Virginia Legislature in 1782.

"In the days of early settlement, before the establishment of courts and political organizations, on the frontier and other places, there may have been an excuse for this savage practice of lynching.

"In the years from 1850 up to 1860 it is estimated there were 46 negroes put to death in the United States. The practice did not become so widely prevalent until after the Civil War. It is a singular fact that down to about 1890 white men and those of other races were thus put to death indiscriminately; since then many more colored persons have been lynched. In the last thirty years neither race nor sex has been spared. Over 500 white men have been lynched and 57 women have been the victims of mobs. Even children have been included.

"It is startling to note that in the twenty-eight years from 1890 to 1917, inclusive, the number of lynchings was approximately equal to the number of those electrocuted or hanged under sentence of the courts. Three thousand and thirteen is the number counted for the former and 3,193 for the latter. In seventeen States the number lynched surpassed the number put to death by judicial sentence."

Congress Should Act.

"Is it desirable that Congress should act?" asked Mr. Burton, and then he replied to his own question: "The evil has assumed colossal proportions. Nationhood involves two things. First, the service of the citizen; his life and property must be subject to the call of his country. Second, the nation is hardly worthy of the name which does not protect its citizens.

"Whatever our view of State rights may be, we must recognize that under present-day conditions in the solution of national questions State boundaries are becoming vanishing traces on the map. I count myself as one who deplores that tendency, but in our effort to restrain Federal jurisdiction we are fighting against the tide. The boundary line between the State and the National Government is something that is beyond our control.

"There remains to be considered the validity or constitutionality of this bill. I cannot do otherwise than admit that grave doubts have arisen upon this subject, that there have been numerous decisions in which not only expressions obiter but decisions of the court upon questions submitted have seemed to deny the application of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution to conditions justifying the passage of this bill.

"But what have you here? The usurpation in well toward half the States of the Union of the right to punish crime by the mob, going sometimes even into the temple of justice itself, where the culprit is on trial, taking him away from the Sheriff, seizing him in the presence of the Judge and the jury and taking him out to certain death. Now, do you mean to say to me that the National Government does not have the power to enforce that provision of trial by jury where it is disregarded on so large a scale? Is that provision of the Constitution for trial by jury a mere vanishing shadow, without substance? This is different from the ordinary cases that have been before the Supreme Court. We cannot afford to continue without action."

N Y C TRIBUNE
JANUARY 28, 1922

What the Dyer Bill Does

The House of Representatives has passed the Dyer anti-lynching bill by nearly a two-thirds majority. The only argument openly used by the opposition was the state rights argument. The bill was attacked on the ground that it asserted a Federal power to compel state and county governments to respect Federal commitments. This was the issue which the majority had to meet and was glad to meet.

Through treaties the Federal government promises alien residents equal protection under our laws. The Fourteenth Amendment forbids a state "to deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." The national government has found by disagreeable experience that it couldn't always fulfill its treaty guaranties. It has had to confess to other governments that mob violence within state jurisdictions had deprived alien residents of equal protection under our laws and that state and local authorities could not be coerced into making legal reparation. Similarly, mob violence has nullified the Fourteenth Amendment guaranties to American citizens. But that nullification has seldom moved the Federal government to apologize to itself.

There has been a twilight zone of impotency and irresponsibility between Federal power and state power. The Dyer bill wipes that zone off the map. If the state or the county fails to prevent lynchings its officials become accountable to the Federal government. Local communities which tolerate mob lawlessness must pay for their indifference. "Leading citizens" may no longer take part with impunity in "lynching bees."

If state or local authority suffers under the anti-lynching act it suffers deservedly. Local non-enforcement of treaty and constitutional pledges must give way to national enforcement. This is what passage of the Dyer act means. So understood, the state right outcry is without point. It is an argument for the Dyer act, not against it.

NASHVILLE TENN BANNER
JANUARY 5, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Representative Dyer of Missouri, in arguing the anti-lynching bill, of which he is the author, appears to have dwelt on the horrors of lynchings and to have eulogized the Negro soldiers who went overseas in the late war. That is all outside of the point at issue. The Missouri Congressman cannot condemn lynchings any more than they deserve to be condemned. The Banner has always denied any manner of excuse for mob violence for any sort for any reason, and has on all occasions cried out against the lynching monstrosity. This paper hates lynchings because, first, of their insufferable wrong, because they are demoralizing and because of the great injury they do the South, where they in most instances, occur.

The Negro soldiers who went overseas and did their duty there are entitled to the same credit that white soldiers of the same record are." No one proposes to draw the color line in that respect, but that has nothing remotely to do with lynchings. The connection is no closer than it is with legal executions.

The Banner sincerely hopes that no Southern Representative in Congress will undertake to defend or justify lynchings. That cannot be done if law is to be respected, or the right of the accused to a fair trial is admitted. No matter what the cause, a lynching is the reprisal and vengeance of the mob that it is not possible to justify or any way excuse, and they cannot be tolerated without danger to organized society. The law must be upheld.

The Banner is also certain that Southern Congressmen duly appreciate the service of all soldiers, and have no desire to be any way invidious on that score.

But this anti-lynching bill is the most flagrant attempt ever made to destroy the distinctive rights reserved to the states and the principle of local self-government. If a state can't administer its own police powers but must surrender that essential prerogative to the Federal government, then we must prepare to expect all government from Washington and complete centralization. The populous centers of the East and Middle West would control the punishment of crime in the Far West and the Gulf Coast.

This law provides for Federal authority to mulct the communities where lynchings occur. The New York World lately pointed out that the central government could with as much right levy a fine on the city of New York because of the many robberies practiced there. The analogy is complete and, carried to its logical extreme, the principle this law would embody would destroy all degree of home rule exercised in any of the states.

It would be clearly and flagrantly unconstitutional, but it is wrong that Congress should ever attempt such an enactment.

Lynchings overthrow the laws; this bill is aimed at a fundamental principle of the constitution.

PICKENS SAYS SOUTH DID NOT SURRENDER WITH LEE 57 YEARS AGO

St. Louis Mo. Argus

Solid Fight Against Anti-Lynching Bill Proof Statesmanship Is Tied Head And Heart To Tradition.

2/24/22

Special to the Argus

NEW YORK CITY, Feb 15—Well, the Dyer bill has passed the House, a reporter remarked to Wm. Pickens, of the Associated Negro Press. "Yes, he replied, the Southern vote in the House of Representatives was "Solid" for the murder in the case of anti-lynching bill. Nearly fifty seven years since Lee surrendered, but the South has not yet surrendered.

It is a pity that so great an effort at reform has to be passed on a strictly sectional partisan vote, the boneheadness of Southern statesmenship makes that necessary. That statesmanship is tied head and heart to tradition. Most of those who get lynched (now) are Negroes—therefore this bill is to help "Negroes,"—therefore the "South" must oppose it etc. This is a great measure aimed to make America a better country for everybody to live in, the Negro included, of course, but the South still cannot see beyond the Negro and its own traditional attitude toward him.

And, remember, men of America, this bill is not yet a law, it still has to run the gauntlet of "committees and 'filibustering'" in the Senate. The Senate loves to "amend," and it will be easy to amend a bill like this to death.

Colored Americans and the friends of law who are not Colored, will not forget that 8 Democrats votes for the Anti-lynching bill, and must not forget that 17 Republicans voted against it. Of course, these 8 Democrats are from the North. It is our belief that even some of the southern members who voted against it, would have voted for it, had they been in a different "atmosphere." We boast that we are "free men" but most of us are slaves to our environment.

this fight for civilization, and one of

The National Association for the the best things is that the Negro news Advancement of Colored People led papers did yeomen service in forward ing the fight. Never before has the Colored American group shown such fine cooperative spirit as it done so far in pushing this anti-lynching matter thru the House.

We fear, however that most Colored folks do not realize that it costs fearfully in money to sustain this fight. The Association has to keep a watch in Washington all the time. The Negro is not in Congress, and the plight of this anti-lynching measure has shown what a great need there is of a Negro in that body. But James Weldon Johnson, "Ambassador" of the N. A. A. C. P., made up for this lack as best he could in the lobbies and committee rooms, from the galleries and in private audiences.

That reminds me: The Black People Must Go Back To Congress To Stay. White friends have done much for the Negro, but no white friend can represent him adequately, and the white person who thinks that he is all the representation that the Negro needs, is not a friend.

The South may remain "solid" in ivory but still never be solid in prosperity till its blacks participate in its government.

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DEFENCE OF THE WRONG

Elsewhere on this page will be found an article by M. Ashby Jones, D. D., on "State Rights Plus State Responsibility." It is an able article with much of which we agree. He says: "That the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, just passed by the House of Congress, has met with a storm of protest from the South."

Atlanta Independent 2/9/22 Ga.

This seems strange, in view of the fact that the purpose of this bill is to wipe out mob violence and lynching, which is such a foul blot upon this nation. Nothing has lowered the American people in the eyes of the world so much as mob violence and lynching. It is barbarous and strikes at the very foundation of the government.

It is not only a crime against the individual, but the government itself. We boast of a people's government—where the people rule; and yet, no other civilized government in the world resorts to such barbarous practice.

Dr. Jones is right when he says:

"Indeed, the very fact that both of our political parties have for half a century used the Negro to inflame sectional passions for the purpose of getting votes, makes it almost impossible for the people of America to judge impartially any question where the interests of the Negro is involved. Conscious of my own limitations, I have tried to rid myself of these partisan irritations in my consideration of this issue."

The Doctor is right when he says that "Both of our political parties have for half a century used the Negro to inflame sectional passions for the purpose of getting votes." He has been used as a cat's paw and kicked around like an old hound dog. People who call themselves Christians have treated him just as though he was not a human. Some have treated him worse than they have their dogs—for they have treated them with some consideration, but not so with the Negro. This has been practiced so long that they have forgotten that he is a human being—made in the image of his Maker. In referring to the Negro they are unconscious that they are speaking of a man like other men.

Is it any wonder, then, that lynching and mob violence are rampant, and he is deprived of his life without due process of law? And yet, says Dr. Jones:

"A storm of protest has been raised in the South against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill."

And it will continue to go on unless this bill becomes law. Dr. Jones says further:

"I am sure that we will all recognize that it is the primary right and duty of any government to protect the lives of its citizens. In the performance of this duty it must guarantee to every man accused of a crime, the right to an impartial trial by a jury of his peers. This is the priceless privilege won by our forefathers at Runnymede, when they wrung from the English crown the great charter on which our freedom is founded. Therefore, it is both the right and the duty of the United States government to see to it that its citizezns are not robbed of this privilege. For a mob in Georgia to kill a man without a legal trial is unquestionably to rob him of his right as a citizen of the United States, and thus to commit an offense against the government of the United States."

That the government of the United States is in duty bound to protect its citizens is self-evident; for governments were established to protect life and property—and when they fail to do this, the reason for their existence ceases. And every man accused, whether white or black, should be confronted by his accusers, and have an impartial trial before a jury of his peers. This was known as the "Magna Charta."

Dyer Bill (National)

In this state and many others, men and women are jerked up on mere suspicion and swung to limbs of trees and burned at the stake; and, unfortunately, most all of them are Negroes. The number of whites lynched is a negligible quantity. Then, why should not this bill which contemplates the safeguarding of the lives of citizens be passed? And on what ground could any intelligent and upright citizen object? To argue in defense of mob violence and lynching is a confession of guilt, and convicts those who defend it. And if the United States government would not perish from the face of the earth, it must protect the lives of its citizens at any cost—the humblest as well as the greatest—because if they can mob and lynch the humblest, how long will it be before a dead conscience will enable them to lynch the greatest?

Dr. Jones argues: "Give the states another chance." They have already had sixty years, and if they have not availed themselves of that chance in that time, is it reasonable to suppose that they will ever do so? As he states, the states have broken down or they have connived at it. What good reason have we to believe that they will not continue to do so?

Then, by all means, let the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill pass, for only those who wish to aid and abet mob violence and lynching will oppose it; for it is not against the just and the upright citizens, but against those who commit these crimes or sympathize with them. The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill is the remedy and should be passed; and it is hoped that the senators will do their duty and pass it up to the President and let it become a law.

The Independent has very little hope that public opinion will ever be sufficiently strong in the individual states to break it up—it will take the strong arm of the national government. And if it is argued that the national government can not do it and that lynching will increase if such a law is passed, it is a tacit acknowledgment that the government is helpless and cannot protect its citizens. That is a fatal argument; but the Independent does not believe it. It believes that the government can break up mob violence and lynching, and that it will be broken up if the Anti-Lynching Bill, which has now passed the house, is made a law.

HARLEM N Y HOME NEWS
JANUARY 29, 1922

Siegel, Supporting Anti-Lynching Bill, Urges Trying Criminals in U. S. Court

The scenes of disorder which have attended the discussions of the anti-lynching bill in the House of Representatives during the past few days, have focussed attention on this particular bit of proposed legislation, and make a speech in advocacy of the bill by Congressman Isaac Siegel, of the 20th New York Dist., more than ordinarily interesting to Home News readers.

Congressman Siegel, in his speech favoring the measure, contended that the ends of justice would be better met, in cases of lynching, and officers of the law having criminals in their possession would better realize the responsibilities, confronting them, if the cases were tried in Federal courts, sufficiently removed from the scenes of the crimes.

He read from an editorial appearing in the New York Tribune of January 10, which contrasted the number of homicides in the southern States with those in northern territory of a corresponding population. The editorial summed up the situation by declaring that as a crime deterrent lynching has been a complete failure.

Congressman Siegel, during the course of his speech, was frequently interrupted by southern Representatives, who requested that the New York member of the House yield to questions. This Siegel consented to, in every case. His colleagues from the South attempted to show, at one stage of their questioning, that the functions of a New York City policeman, and the sheriff of a county in a southern State were analogous, Representative Wingo asking the question: "Does the gentleman favor subjecting to Federal control the 10,000 policemen of the City of New York?"

To this Siegel replied that the Federal courts already have taken control, under the 18th Amendment, the police being under Federal control for the enforcement of the laws, assisting the U. S. marshal all the time. Answering a specific question, Siegel said he did not favor putting them under control of the Federal courts, adding that in New York City a distinction was made between the sheriff and the police department. They are both police officers, he said, but with a certain distinct line of duty.

Cites Lynchings of Women.

Congressman Siegel reviewed the history of the 14th Amendment, and in conclusion said: "Something must be done to eradicate the desire to violate and to take the law into one's own hands. No excuse can be offered for the lynching of 64 women, 11 white and 53 colored, between the period of 1889 to Jan. 1, 1921 * * * One has but to take a glance at the figures of lynchings, which I will submit to this body, to see at once the necessity of the passage of some legislation along these lines. They are for the benefit of the country at large."

N Y C GLOBE
JANUARY 28, 1922

A BILL TO PROHIBIT MURDER.

One hundred and two Democrats and seventeen Republicans voted against the anti-lynching bill when it came before the House on Thursday. This bill enables the federal government to fine a county in which a lynching takes place, or through which a lynching party is allowed to pass, and provides punishment both for the lynchers and for public officials who do not do what they ought to protect their prisoners. Communities which do not allow lynchings will not have any trouble with this law. The theory is that lynching is a community crime. Where it occurs regularly it is because public opinion tolerates it, and in that case it is rarely punished.

The 119 congressmen who voted against the bill did not say that they approved of lynching. They talked, for the most part, of the rights of local government and the threatened usurpation of power by the federal government. But the opposition really arises out of the belief of many southerners that the south knows how to handle its own race problem and that if the Negro cannot be kept down by other means he must be kept down by terrorization. Southerners do not want lynchings, but they do want the Negro kept in the place for which they think God intended him. Curiously enough, the will of God in this instance seems to require assistance, for the Negro often shows a tendency to improve himself, rise in the world, and even grow richer than his white neighbor. The Negro-baiter does not want to have to kill the Negro, but if he does have to prove his superiority by taking disciplinary measures worthy of the nastiest savages he does not want to have his fun interfered with by a federal law. It is an abstract right he wants—the right to commit murder when he thinks proper without being punished for it.

The southern members in congress, and some of the northern members, know that this is so. There is a growing sentiment in the south against lynching, but apparently those who hold this sentiment do not dare offend sectional pride by supporting the Dyer bill. They would be wiser if they were braver. The best thing that the south can do is to coöperate with the federal government in wiping out the crime which at present does more than any one thing to degrade and disgrace the former slave-holding communities. The prompt passage of the bill by the Senate will be a step forward in American civilization.

A RECORD FOR OKLAHOMA

IN SPITE OF THE FACT that the records show no diminution in the number of lynchings staged in certain sections of our country we find here and there a ray of hope that this form of lawlessness will be made exceedingly unpopular in the near future if

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the Dyer bill now pending in Congress becomes a law and if other courts mete out such drastic punishment as did the one in Oklahoma City, Okla., recently, when life sentences were pronounced on Charles Polk, Lee Whitley and Elmer Yearta, convicted of having a hand in the lynching of Jake Brooks, whose only offense was working in a packing house after a strike had been called.

OKLAHOMA has had a none too savory reputation for its dealings with members of our group; not only the average layman but the constituted civil authorities apparently have labored under the impression that a black man has no rights that a white man is bound to respect, even to the point of protecting his own life. As might have been expected, a storm of protest went up from the moron element on account of the so-called severity of the sentence, but the judge and the jury proved that justice could prevail even against popular sentiment.

'TIS SAID what seldom happens is wonderful. Of the sixty-odd lynchings that took place in the United States last year—many of them as public as a circus parade—not one of the "prominent citizens" who participated was punished or even apprehended. And they call this justice. With all due respect to the court officials handling this case, we cannot help but feel that the Dyer bill and the nationwide crusade against lynching had their effect in determining the sentence. The light of publicity is the surest and best way of killing an evil. Oklahoma has made a start in the right direction. We hope she will keep up the pace.

N Y C CALL
JANUARY 20, 1922

London Demands Justice for the Negro

IF, in his entire term, Meyer London, the sole Socialist congressman, had done nothing but tell the truth about this country's treatment of the Negro, which he did in a masterly speech on the floor of the House Wednesday afternoon, the district that sent him to Congress would have reason to be proud that he carried its message in a manner befitting its vital importance to the cause of real freedom. The entire delegation from the State of New York has not performed as great a public service as this one congressman did when he told the country the truth about the Negro question.

We are glad that London took occasion to rebuke the North for its hypocritical attitude toward our brothers who happen to have a different colored skin from ours. "We are paying for the sins not only of the slaveowner of the South but of the slave importer of the North," said London.

When London discussed the arguments of those who had brought out the outworn fetich of state rights to justify the refusal to pass anti-lynching laws he exposed their arrant hypocrisy with this sweeping sentence: "You did not hesitate to pass a conscription act, which enabled the Federal government to reach its hands into the homes of the people in the several states for the purpose of sending them to destruction in a foreign land, but when it is proposed to abolish lynching you invoke this doctrine of state rights."

That portion of London's speech addressed directly to the white workers of this country is the pre-eminently important utterance which the Socialist congressman made. We wish it were in our power to place it in the hands of every white worker in this country.

We place it here with the hope that every one of our readers will show it to as many of his fellow workers as he can reach:

THE LAWS AND INSTITUTIONS THAT ARE AIMED AT THE NEGRO HIT THE WHITE WORKER, SOONER OR LATER, WITH JUST AS MUCH FORCE AS THE NEGRO. THE INTERESTS OF THE WHITE WORKERS AND THE COLORED WORKERS ARE IDENTICAL, AND WHEN THEY PERMIT THEMSELVES TO BE SWAYED BY THE PASSIONS WHICH IT IS TO THE INTERESTS OF THE RULING CLASS TO CONSTANTLY FAN, THE WHITE WORKERS ENTER THE SAME TRAP THAT HAS BEEN LAID FOR THEIR NEGRO BROTHERS.

The Negro question will not be settled by any sort of compromising. Our brother with the dark skin is entitled by the right of life itself to every right that we with the white skin enjoy. It is true we have not many rights but what few we have gained he is entitled to and he is further entitled to fight side by side with us to achieve real freedom.

As for ourselves we will not only do our part to help our colored brother get what he would always have had if we were really a civilized people, but we gladly welcome him as a soldier of the common good if he wishes to fight by our side in the battle for the rights of all. And we welcome him as an equal, judging his desirability only by the same standards which we apply to those of our own and other races.

N Y C GLOBE
MARCH 3, 1922

JUDGE LYNCH ON TRIAL.

Every sensible man agrees that it is wrong to commit murder, and that the degree of wrong is not lessened, but increased, if two men conspire together for the commission of such a crime. It seems absurd to say that if the number of participants is large enough the quality of evil disappears from the act. Yet what other defense can be made by the congressmen who are fighting the attempt to pass a law saying that when a Negro is murdered by a group of white men, that act is a crime?

The Dyer anti-lynching bill, which was indorsed at a mass meeting in the Town Hall Wednesday evening, would make members of the mob and culpable state officials, in the case of a lynching, subject to trial for felony. The county in which the lynching took place could be fined up to $10,000, and this sum would be recoverable in the federal courts by the family of the victim. The bill, which was passed by the House of Representatives more than a month ago by a vote of 230 to 119, is now before a sub-committee of the judiciary committee of the Senate. Stiff opposition to it is expected in the upper house from southern men who feel that the evil of lynching is a local matter for the south on which the judgment of the rest of the country is not worth having.

That the Negro problem can be solved by legislation, no one north or south is foolish enough to suppose. It remains and will remain a grave national question which can be answered only over a long period of years, if at all. But the 3,400 lynchings of Negroes by white mobs which have occurred in the last thirty-two years are not an ineradicable aspect of the Negro problem. They represent a type of mob violence which has shown itself in other places and at other times, and can be curbed by the forces of government when those forces have courage enough to use a firm hand. Failure of the Senate to pass the Dyer bill will mean an open confession that the government of this country is not interested in making even the attempt to put an end to a particularly brutal form of anarchy.

The Anti-Lynching Bill.

The most palpable, unconstitutional and mischief promoting measure that ever was enacted by the Congress of the United States passed the Lower House a few days ago. Vardaman's Weekly

I was very glad to see that the Mississippians in Congress stood for the constitution and the purity of the Anglo-Saxon race. I do not understand what the republicans hope to gain by this sort of legislation. The effect of it can only be to encourage negroes to commit crime, outrage white women and murder white men, which will in turn provoke the anger of white men and cause lynchings and murders in an unusual degree.

No man would vote for this measure who had any respect for the constitution of the United States. But the constitution seems to amount to very little with the average man if his political interest and advantages of today will be promoted by his violating it.

President Harding has expressed a desire to preserve peace and order between the races in the south and the best thing he can do would be to notify Congress that the enactment of such laws as the Anti-Lynching Bill will find no sympathy at his hands and he could do no better thing for himself, his country and especially for the negroes than to veto the measure and give the promoters of such unconstitutional, damnable legislation to understand that as long as he is President of these United States the constitution is supreme.

BISHOP HURST BRAVES DANGER IN SOUTHLAND

Chicago Defender

Noted Prelate Declares Against Mob Rule in the Worst Crime State

3/11/22

Palatka, Fla., March 10.—"Human life and property are too cheap in our country, if it happens to be a member of our Race," was the declaration made by Bishop John Hurst of Baltimore in an address before the South Florida African Methodist Episcopal church at the closing session held here, "and I am glad that the house of representatives of the United States congress had the manhood to pass the Dyer anti-lynching bill, and now we are asking the senate to do the same thing, and there is no question about President Harding signing it.

"Billions of dollars and millions of men have been sacrificed by our country for the protection of human lives in Cuba, and on the battlefields of France to establish democracy for the world, while thousands of American citizens have been lynched without due process of law. They have been deprived of life and property and this is open violation of the 14th amendment to the federal constitution. We love Old Glory, and in return we are asking for protection. We want it so that an accused once in the clutches of the law it would be as easy to get him out of hades as to get him out of jail without due process of law."

Following the address of Bishop Hurst the conference passed strong resolutions to be sent to the United States senate urging the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. A committee was appointed with Bishop Hurst chairman and Revs. R. A. Grant, C. C. Simmons, C. S. Long, R. A. Williams, Grand Master D. D. Powell, H. Y. Tooke and T. C. Calhount to present the resolutions to the United States senate.

The conference was addressed by Revs. S. Morris of Norfolk, general secretary of the Allen Christian Endeavor League; J. D. Barksdale, D. D., Kansas City, Kan., editor of the Western Christian Recorder, and R. A. Grant, D. D., Jacksonville, the choice of Florida for the Episcopacy.

Mrs. K. Bertha Hurst, in an address, made a strong appeal for the protection of the young women of the Race. "One dress tattered and torn," she said, "is worth more than a thousand silks representing debauchery. Young women, die if need be for your womanhood."

Miami was selected for the next annual session.

Lynchings – 1922
Legislation

Dyer Bill (National) 1068

Rankin's Speech on Anti-Lynching Bill

Vardaman's Weekly 2/23/22

As a companion piece to a measure that is pending in the State Legislature which proposes to appropriate $25,000.00 and appoint Governor Brough, Alf Stone, Isaiah T. Montgomery and Prof. W. H. Haltzclaw to administer the law in encouraging the negroes to do things that we all will regret, I am reproducing herewith an address by Hon. John Rankin delivered in the House of Representatives January 19th, 1922, on the Anti Lynching Bill. I have not received a copy of Ross Collins' speech on this subject yet but I am going to get it and give it to my readers next week. I want the legislators to read these speeches and see some of the glorious pictures which are shown of an educated negro's longings for white women,—just such creatures as our legislature is taking the bread from the mouths of the poor white people of the state to feed and fatten.

I want to congratulate our members of Congress for the brave, manly fight they have made against this Anti-Lynching Bill and I want the people to contrast the spirit of their fight with the disposition manifested by the legislature of Mississippi.

Read Rankin's speech carefully—it will do you good:

MR. RANKIN. Mr. Chairman, this so-called antilynching bill is one of the most drastic and most vicious measures that ever came before this body. Yet, if I thought it would stop lynchings, and at the same time prevent the awful causes of lynchings, without infringing on the rights of the states, doing violence to the constitution, destroying the rights of our citizens, or unjustly penalizing innocent persons for the offenses of other people, I would consider giving it my support.

But I know it will not do that; it was not intended for that purpose. It is but a play to the negro agitator for political effect, and it will not only fail to decrease the number of lynchings, or remedy the causes therefor, but it will encourage the negro brutes in their attacks on the defenseless white women of the country. (Applause.)

As the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. Garrett) said, it ought to be called "A bill to encourage rape." That will be the result if it becomes the law. It will cost the lives of innocent white women and children througout the South, if not throughout the entire country. You men from the North have never known what it means to live in a state of constant dread for the safety of your loved ones. Heretofore you have had little or no race question. But in the South it is diffrent. The shadow of the Negro criminal constantly hangs, as Mr. Garrett says, like the sword of Damocles over the head of every white woman in the South, and one knows just when or where it is going to fall.

Insuring the Life of the Crimnial

The vicious Negroes will understand from this bill that they are protected in their crimes. They will see that by its terms they are assured of the protection of the Federal Government, and that if their crimes are so revolting as to invoke the wrath of an outraged community to such an extent that they rise up and take the life of the offender, then that community or county is to be fined in the sum of $10,000, to be paid to his family, no matter how atrocious his crime may have been. In other words, it insures the life of the Negro rapist for $10,000, to be paid to his family by the family and the neighbors of his victim.

Already this bill is producing results. Four assaults were committed on white women by Negro brutes during the first week of its consideration by this House. One of them took place in an apartment house in the city of Washington, right in the very shadow of the dome of this Capitol, another occurred in the State of Maryland, less than 50 miles away. One occurred in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and another in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and how many others happened in other sections of the country, God only knows.

I am not in favor of lynching, and never have been. I wish it were in my power to forever stamp it out. But there is only one way in which that can be done, and that is to remove the cause, to stop the awful crimes for which men are thus put to death. For no matter what the law is, so long as those outrages continue society will be occasionally shocked by outbreaks of mob violence. But this bill is not designed to prevent the cause of lynching, nor have its suporters uttered a single word against the commission of those horrible crimes of which lynchings are the logical results.

Typical Negro Outrages.

Several years ago a Negro brute entered a home, not very far from where I live, in which there were only two persons at the time, a mother and her daughter. The mother knew the moment she looked upon his savage countenance what his hellish designs were.

She rushed between him and his intended victim met him at the door of her daughter's room, when he seized her, drew a razor, and cut her throat from ear to ear. She held the gaping wound with her hands and shrieked loud enough to warn her daughter to flee, and thereby saved her from a more terrible fate. When the men of that community gathered and looked upon that dead mother, who had laid down her life to save her daughter from this demon in human form, do you suppose they remained cool and collected and conducted themselves as rational men?

There has been something said in the course of this debate about the negro that was put to death in Memphis, Tennessee, two years ago. I do not know of any place where the negroes have been treated with more consideration than they have in Memphis; nor do I know of a place where the people have done more to discountenance mob violence. Every newspaper, every minister of the gospel, and practically every other citizen has discouraged lynching in every possible way. Whenever a negro attacked a white woman or committed some other horrible offense they said, "Let the law take its course." Things went from bad to worse, until one morning the whole community was shocked by one of the most horrible crimes ever committed by a human being.

A beautiful little girl about 13 or 14 years of age, who lived just on the outskirts of Memphis, was waylaid on her way to school by a negro man who was more than 50 years old. He secluded himself at the only point on the road where this child had to pass out of sight of a dwelling house, and when she came along he seized her, dragged her into a secluded spot, outraged her, mutilated her little body beyond description and then took his ax and chopped her head off, hid her head among some bushes, and then threw her little body into an old slough, and went on his way. When they captured him he confessed to the crime and told his captors where to find the remains. Is it reasonable to suppose that those people would remain cool under those circumstances?

In one town in the district which I have the honor to represent, several years ago a little woman was standing before the mirror combing her hair, when she saw in its reflection the countenance of a black demon approaching stealthily from the rear. She knew at once what he meant. She reached and got her husband's pistol, but she was too weak to pull the trigger hard enough to make it fire. He saw from her trembling hand that she could not defend herself, and he walked up, took the weapon from her hand, choked her to insensibility, outraged her, and then took a razor, cut her throat, and left her weltering in her own blood in the parlor of her own home. I wonder what would have happened if this had occurred in your community. This was a married negro, and when he went home he told his wife what he had done. A few days later he gave her a beating, and she told on him. He confessed. told just how he had committed the crime and where the razor and the pistol where to be found. What if this had been in East St. Louis. They would possibly be killing negroes yet. (Laughter.)

I relate these three instances as illustrations of the conduct you are encouraging on the part of the criminal element of the negro race by this iniquitous bill, and some of you by more iniquitous arguments.

Your Time is Coming.

You will say that these are isolated cases. But I can recall a large number of them that are just as revolting as these. A vast number of innocent white women are outraged by negroes in the South every year, and now this evil is creeping into the North. Your time is coming; the negroes are migrating to the North, and the day is not far distant when you will awake to a realization of the fact that you have a more serious race problem on your hands than the South has on hers.

I shall not attempt to discuss the constitutionality of this bill. That has already been done by some of the ablest lawyers in the House, and they have established its unconstitutionality beyond question. But what does the constitution amount to with the demagogues who is bidding for negro votes?

You will probably pass this measure, regardless of its unconstitutionality, but I want to warn you now that you are not dealing with a momentary question or tampering with any trivial affair. This is one phase of the greatest issue that ever confronted the American people—the eternal race question. Upon its proper solution may depend the peace, the happiness, the prosperity of the American people for all time to come. Upon its ultimate outcome may depend the destiny of this republic. Upon its consequences may depend the life of American civilization.

It is an issue that is as old as man himself. Its history may be traced in the records of those nations whose monuments mark the path of time. For thousands of years it has arisen to vex the minds of statesmen and mar the progress of the human race.

It is the evil genuis of our civilization, the sprig of poison ivy in the laurel wreath that crowns America's wonderful achievements.

It rent this republic in civil feuds and drenched her soil in fraternal blood, and has kept our people divided by partisan strife and sectional feelings for more than a hundred years.

It constitutes the death's-head at the feast of international disarmament. Its sinister gaze is falling with slant-eyed racial envy upon the fairest portion of the Pacific coast, disturbing the tranquility of that great section, and has frightened the party in power into an almost ignominiously prodigal program of naval and military expenditures.

It is the greatest question of the age.

Only Four Possible Solutions.

It is one, Mr. Chairman, which will permit of only four possible solutions—amalgamation, extermination, deportation, and segregation.

Those four propositions cover all the ground and fill all the space. We must inevitably resort to one of them to arrive at a settlement. Which one shall it be?

Amalgamation.

Amalgamation, which means the intermarriage and intermixture of the two races, is too repulsive even for consideration. God forbid that the line of cleavage between the white man and the negro in this country should ever be broken down! If it should be, then America, once proud America, would soon find herself sinking hopelessly into the implacable mire of mongrelism. She would drop from her exalted positon as a world power, her boasted civilization would disappear, and she would ultimately become the vassal province of some civilized state.

Negro Not the Equal of the White Man.

The negro is not the equal of the white man, and he never will be. It is just as impossible to reverse the laws of nature by acts of this Congress and lift the negro through tens of thousands of years of civliization, education, and development, regenerate him, purge him of his weaknesses and his instincts, and endow him with Caucasian strength, traits, and characteristics, and make him the peer of the white man, as it would be to raise to the level of intelligent, patriotic statesmanship the misguided, fanatical, negro-pandering demagogue who is always stirring

this question up and advocating negro equality.

Amalgamation is out of the question. If the white men of this country are not willing to take a permanent stand against such an evil, thank God, the white women of the nation, the guardians of our racial purity, will take such a stand and maintain it against all odds.

We people in the South are not fighting this battle alone. But even if we were, you could never force negro equality or negro domination upon us, so long as the sun shines. As was once said by the immortal Henry W. Grady, we wrested that section from negro rule when federal drumbeats rolled nearer and federal bayonets hedged closer about the ballot box of the South than it ever will again in this free republic. (Applause.)

As time has passed away, the forces of white supremacy have been recruited by the additions of millions of the sober-minded patriotic men of the North, the East, and the West The recent war taught the young men of those sections what the Negro really is, and you will find that a vast majority of those men who served in the rank and file of the American Army during that conflict and were subjected to contact with the Negro and had innumerable indignities imposed upon them and their comrades as a result of that contact—you will find that those boys are unqualifiedly in favor of maintaining white supremacy at all times and at all costs. Not only that, but the millions of white women who have been compelled to endure in silence this Negro scourage have been given the right to register their protests at the polls, and they are going to forever set the seal of their enernal condemnation upon those men who, as one woman recently expressed it "attempt to foist this benign evil upon a thoughtless public." The white women of the North resent contact with the Negro almost or quite as much as do the white women of the South. I have seen them right here in this city, the wives of the very Congressmen who expect to vote for this iniquitous measure—I have seen the expressions of indignation and righteous resentment on their faces as they were trampled upon and pushed aside by the brutal Negoes in the street cars of Washington. The white women of the country are the ones who as a rule have suffered the indignities as a result of your misguided policy toward the Negro, and they are going to manifest their protest hereafter in no uncertain terms.

What has the Negro done for himself or for civilization to entitle him to equality with the white race? The only civilization he has ever imbibed was that imposed upon him by the white people of the South through the unfortunate institution of slavery—unfortunate for the white man; fortunate for the Negro.

For tens of thousands of years he roamed at will over the continent of Africa, the richest country of all the world, feasting upon his fellow man, and never even developed the art of agriculture to the extent of making his living out of the ground.

For countless ages he trod the sands of his native soil with diamonds beneath his feet and never even dreamed of the theory of values.

He saw the dawn of civilization and watched the pageant of the centuries pass without so much as manifesting a desire to participate in the progress.

He bowed beneath his master's whip at the building of the pyramids and watched succeeding civilizations rise and fall, and all he ever learned was to construct a rude shelter of bark and grass sufficient to shield his head from the beating rays of a tropical sun.

He remained in this savage state until he was brought to our shores and shown the light of civilization through the institution of slavery—the worst curse that ever befell the South, and the greatest blessing the negro has ever known.

From the standpoint of the white man, slavery was a grievous fault, and grievously has Dixie answered it. For more than 50 years she has passed through the darkest shadow that ever fell across the white man's path. But, thank God, the light is at last beginning to break through the rifting clouds, and the South is rising like the phoenix from the ashes of her own destruction, the richest domain of this great republic, and the greatest bulwark of Anglo-Saxon civilization on the Western Hemisphere. (Applause.)

The people of the South were not altogether responsible for the institution of slavery, nor will they pay the penalty alone. They bought those slaves from the people of the North, and the time has now come when you must join us in a proper solution of this question, or your section must pay its just reward. The agitators behind this bill, instead of aiding you in this work, or punishing the South for an offense of which she is not guilty, are merely complicating the situation, hastening your day of trouble, and commending the poisoned chalice to your own lips. The motive behind this agitation is social equality. That is what these negro agitators want and that they will never get, so long as our people maintain their self-respect and their sense of race pride.

A little more than a hundred years ago, the negroes of Haiti threw off the yoke of bondage, took over the government, and forced the white people of that country to submit to their domination. And what has been the result. The white people have disappeared, and the negroes have lapsed into barbarism. A high-ranking officer in the marine corps testified before a Senate investigating committee recently, so I am reliably informed, that those savages are actually eating each other. And yet we find members of the United States Congress, by their attitude on this bill, encouraging the negroes in this country to rape indiscriminately the white women with whom they come in contact, and holding out to them the hope of immunity or reward.

Amalgamation is out of the question. For my part, I would rather know that our population would sink into the grave with the death of this generation, and that this continent would again become a howling wilderness, to be later settled up by the white race of other lands, than to see our people accept the negroes on terms of social equality and our country go down to the future inhabited by a degraded mongrel race.

Extermination.

The next possible solution is extermination which is too horrible to contemplate. It will only be resorted to if the fanacticism which this bill reflects continues to fan the flames of race hatred until the two races are driven to open warfare as they were in East St. Louis, Chicago, and Springfield, Illinois.

This agitation is not coming from the negroes of the South. It is coming from the deluded Afro-Americans in and around Washington, Chicago. St. Louis. Boston and other places where a few misguided people have led them to believe that they are merely sunburnt Yankees and entitled to be placed on equality with the white man.

At a recent meeting of more than 500 negroes in this city it was stated by one of their leaders that his grievance was not against the Ku-Klux Klan but against the United States government He said:

> The United States are the real Ku Klux, because they believe in white supremacy.

He said.

> There are three ways to get even, namely, organization, boycott and bullets. When we get money, we'll get guns.

He further said:

> I serve notice on the United States government that there is a black cloud arising, from the South and South America, and a yellow cloud from back of the Ural Mountains that will unite to overthrow white supremacy. Everywhere—

He continued—

sentiment is rising against white supremacy.

One leading Washington negro said at that meeting:

> The white people's government is tottering, and we must prepare our children to rule the white people.

Another one said he was "willing to lay down his life at any time to end white supremacy." That the Republican party had made them promises they had never intended to keep. He also said the Republicans were in favor of white supramacy and urged the negroes to vote the Socialist ticket. All of these negroes who spoke at that meeting advocated intermarriage between the whites and blacks.

This information was given me by a newspaper reporter who attended that meeting, and he said these radical speeches were cheered to the echo by practically all the negroes present.

This is the element of the negro race that the advocates of this bill are consorting with and encouraging in their vicious designs. And if this feeling continues to grow, it will ultimately result in the extermination of the negro race in America.

Understand, Mr. Chairman, this element does not comprise the great mass of the negroes in the United States, or at least in the South. The relations between the white people and the negroes in the South are about as pleasant as could be expected under the circumstances, and all we ask is that we be left alone. But these agitators have begun to invade that country and scatter their propaganda, as will appear from what took place in Arkansas two years ago and in Tulsa, Oklahoma, last year.

The negro is a tenant at sufferance wherever he comes in contact with the white man, and whenever their peaceful relations are disturbed the negro disappears. He is no longer necessary to the economic prosperity of the South, and whenever this agitation progresses to where he is a menace to the safety of the community in which he resides he will be compelled to seek employment elsewhere. Where will he go? He will fill your northern cities, towns and hamlets, until you will have a race problem compared with which ours in the South will shrink to insignificance. I predict that within less than 25 years from today some of the very districts whose representatives are behind this bill will be crying aud for help to rid them of this negro scourge. and possibly be answered only by the "echo of their wailing cry."

Deportation.

The next available solution is deportation, which is hardly feasible at this time, although it may be the ultimate solution. But it will be a long time, to say the least of it, before the people of this country, both white and black, will consent to a final separation. The question is before us now, and a solution less drastic must be found.

Segregation.

That solution is segregation.

Segregation, or a separation of the races, is the only immediate reasonable, humane, sensible solution of this great question. We need to segregate the races not only socially but politically as well. The South has pursued this course, and compared with the number of negroes we have there we have had comparatively few outbreaks of mob violence, such as characterized the riots in East St. Louis and other northern cities. Your figures, which were compiled by negroes, show that Mississippi has lynched 373 people in 40 years. But you must remember that in that state we have more negroes than whites, and we had more agitation on the part of the carpetbaggers during the days of reconstruction than almost any other state in the union. But aside from that, our record is not half as bad as the records of some of the states whose representatives are raising such a howl about our mistreating the innocent" negroes, and keeping so painfully silent about the innocent white women whom these brutes have outraged. If every one of the following 20 states had as many negroes as Mississippi has, and had lynched as many in proportion to the number as the record shows they have lynched in the same length of time, their records, even according to the reports compiled by these negroes, would be as follows: While Mississippi was lynching 373, Missouri would have lynched 538, Kansas 672, Minnesota 423, West Virginia 566, Iowa 674, Wisconsin 1,724, Wyoming 7,706, Washington 2,336, California 1,400, Colorado 2,199, Idaho 12,462, Illinois 1,833, Indiana 508, Montana 11,603, Nebraska 3,943, Nevada 11,877, New Mexico 10,094, North Dakota 4,924, Oregon 6,775 and South Dakota 18,694.

There ought to be a law in every state in the Union prohibiting intermarriage between the races, and they ought to be separated in all governmental activities, in the army, in the navy, in schools, and on street cars, railroad trains, and other common carriers. In those states where they have not enough negroes to justify the railroads in carrying an extra coach, there ought to be a separate section set aside for them, or a separate section set aside for the white people.

There ought to be, and there must be, before this question is settled, a segregation law in every state, separating whites and negroes in the residential sections of cities, towns, and municipalities. In the south we have done that. We are segregated by a common understanding. The negro abides by it, for he knows it is best for himself as well as for the white man.

In the North you will be driven to this salutary recourse within the very near future, and the sooner you wake up and adopt it the better it will be for all concerned. One white woman in

(See next Card)

Lynchings – 1922
Legislation
(From foregoing Card)
"Rankin's Speech"
Vardaman's Weekly
2/23/22

Dyer Bill. (National)

1067

Indianapolis, Indiana, writing on the subject, says

Civic organizations have sprung up all over Indianapolis formed for the purpose of self-protection against the negro element, who are invading the white residence sections and thereby ruining the value of real estate for blocks around.

This is one of the great menaces with which you people are going to have to deal, and the longer you postpone the day of reckoning the more violent will be the readjustment, which is just as sure to come as the night follows the day.

In order to reach this solution, it may be necessary to repeal the fifteenth and modify the fourteenth amendments to the constitution of the United States or adopt a new amendment giving the states the necessary power before these changes can be brought about. If such a change in our fundamental law is necessary to reach a righteous adjustment of the overshadowing issue of the age, then let us hasten to make the change.

Mr. Chairman, I have no antipathy for the negro as a race; I have no prejudice against him because he is a negro. I am a far better friend to him than any man who votes for this bill. But I understand him; I know his weaknesses, his shortcomings, and his limitations. I want to see him protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. And in order to protect him in those enjoyments and save him from the disastrous consequences of further misunderstandings with the white people of this country, in order to protect the white people against the contamination of an inferior race, in order to perpetuate the glories of this great republic and reunite her in the bonds of fraternal love and mutual understanding, in order that her blessings may be showered on the generations yet unborn, I implore you men of the North to join with the men of the South in the only just and equitable solution of this great problem—a segregation of the two races. (Applause.)

FORT WORTH TEX TELEGRAM
JANUARY 6, 1922

Sums It All Up.

DURING the debate on the anti-lynching bill in the House Wednesday, Representative Sumners laid down this fundamental truth with respect to the protection of negroes against mob violence:

"Nobody can protect them against the mob except the white people among whom they live. It seems anybody with sense ought to understand that."

And nobody recognizes that better than the leaders of the negro race in the South.

They understand that Eastern agitators, white or black, can only make the problem more difficult.

MORE SECTIONAL THAN PARTISAN

MANY OF OUR EXCHANGES comment upon the vote by which the Dyer anti-lynching bill passed the house referred to it regretfully as having been made a party measure—Republicans voting for it and Democrats against it as a partisan measure. This is more apparent than real. A careful analysis of the vote reveals the fact that it was more of a sectional than a party measure, the North being for it and the South against it.

3/18/22

THE FACT must not be overlooked that in the Harding landslide of 1920 very few Northern Democrats were elected to congress. The bulk of the Democratic membership of the house, therefore, hailed from the extreme South, a section in which elections do not elect and where lynch law had its inception and is supported and sustained by local popular sentiment.

THE NEGATIVE VOTE on this bill was 119—102 of this number were cast by Democrats and 17 who were elected as Republicans. Of the 102 Democrats only two represent districts geographically classed Northern, to wit, California. Of the remaining 100 twelve came from the border states of Maryland, Kentucky, Missouri and Oklahoma. Half of that number came from Kentucky alone. The remaining 88 came from the extreme Southern states. To be more specific, attention is called to the fact that of the five New England states, with 29 members, only two of them were Democrats, both from Massachusetts, one voted for the bill, the other did not vote.

IN NEW YORK there are nine Democratic members. Three voted for the bill, the other six did not vote, though some of this number are known to have been in favor of it. New Jersey and Pennsylvania each had one Democratic representative, both of whom voted in the affirmative. Illinois had three Democratic members. One voted for it, the other two did not vote. It will thus be seen that with only two negative votes north of the Mason and Dixon line the North was practically solid, regardless of party, in support of the bill, while the South was practically solid in opposition to it.

THAT THE NEW Northern Democrats in congress could not be whipped into line by the representatives of the Southern oligarchy in opposition to this wise and popular piece of legislation is a favorable sign and a hopeful indication. It shows the drift of popular sentiment is in the right direction, which will secure to American citizens, South as well as North security and protection in the enjoyment of life, liberty and property. We are, therefore, looking forward to a speedy concurrence on the part of the senate in the action of the house in passing this bill. We have every reason to believe that the President will sign it and through the Department of Justice it will be rigidly and impartially enforced.

DALLAS TEX JOURNAL
JANUARY 28, 1922

FACING THE ALTERNATIVE.

The opposition which the anti-lynching bill is destined to encounter in its progress through the United States Senate may spell its defeat. Nor is that opposition ill-founded, for the measure as enacted by the House marks another attempted supercession of State authority, and its constitutionality may properly be questioned. The Republicans themselves may have little hope of finally passing the bill, and what they have done may be, as charged, only a gesture to serve party interests in the next congressional campaign.

But when this is said nothing can be said in favor of lynchings, regardless of which section of the country may be shamed by them. Nothing can be said in favor of the apathetic attitude, or the tolerant attitude, which certain of the States have maintained toward lynching throughout the last half a century.

The Dyer bill should not become law, because no such law should be necessary. When the bill was first proposed, months ago, The Journal declared that its teeth would serve, on exposure, as warnings to the several States of the Union that they must adopt more expeditious and drastic means of dealing with lynchers and putting down mob rule, or face the alternative of Federal dictation.

CITIZENSHIP FOUNDATION DAY A GREAT EVENT. ANTI-LYNCH APPEAL SENT FROM ATTUCKS STATUE

Flags Over State Capitol and City Hall at Half Mast in Honor of First Martyr for American Independence —Throngs Meet at Attucks Monument on Boston Common and in Mass Meeting in 12th Baptist Church Under Auspices of Equal Rights League—Mayor Curley and Attorney-General Allen Among Speakers—Jourdain Attucks Orator—Rev. Biddle and Dr. Russell Speak at Statue.

Boston Mass. Herald
3/4/22

(BY OBSERVER)

As if smiling approval of the day's program the weather gods sent a beautiful Spring day for the observance of Citizenship Foundation Day on the Boston Common Monday at high noon in memory and in honor of Crispus Attucks, the first martyr for American Independence. An hour or more before the program started people of all races began gathering around the Attucks Monument and at noon Wm. Monroe Trotter in a calm, clear voice and deliberate words told of the purpose of the celebration. But the occasion was reported as follows in Boston's most aristocratic paper, the Boston Transcript, that evening:

Standing about the Crispus Attucks monument, on Boston Common, erected by the Commonwealth in 1888 to commemorate the Boston Massacre, a large group of men, women and children, representing many races, assembled at noon today. It was on March 5, 1770, that Attucks and four companions were killed in State street, and the words of John Adams—"On that night the foundation of American Independence was laid"—appear on the bronze bas relief of Robert Krause's monument. All over the country this is being observed by the Equal Rights League.

W. Monroe Trotter had charge of the exercises and in his opening remarks he spoke of the historic importance of the anniversary. It was a black man, he said, who gave his "last full measure of devotion," at that time, as men of his race have always been ready to do. He called attention to the fact that the State House and City Halls flags were at half-staff out of respect to the occasion.

Civil War Veteran Speaks

Rev. E. G. Biddle, a member of the Fifty-Fourth Massachusetts Regiment, which performed such valiant service, said that Crispus Attucks did not fight, that fateful night, with any idea of freeing the back race. Neither did the soldiers of the Civil War, of those in the World War. They were Americans, fighting for liberty for all men. The speaker referred to the advance of his race through industry, sobriety and frugality, and said that God is working in his own way to show the world [illegible] the word "brotherhood."

Guardian
3/11/22

Brotherhood

Mr. Biddle spoke of the cowardice of some white men in their attitude toward the negro, and declared that there is not a minister in Boston who will raise his voice in behalf of brotherhood, and hardly a speaker on any platform. "I am not anxious about social equality," he said, "but I want to see the message of Jesus Christ revealed in the love of all men for each other. We hear comments on all sides because recent Constitutional amendments are flouted, but if the 13th, 14th and 15th amendments were enforced, there would be no trouble about the later laws. I want my people to be honest and upright and receive all that American citizenship implies."

Head of Mass. G. U. O. O. F. Speaks

Dr. Alfred P. Russell, Jr., introduced as a leading Odd Fellow, gave thanks for such a beautiful day, for it means, he said, that God is with the brave. He paid eloquent tribute to Julia Ward Howe and for the inspiration of the last verse of her noted poem. Citizenship, he said, implies allegiance and also protection. There is only one way to attain these, and that is by enforcing the laws of the land. The crying need of the present moment is a colored man in Congress.

Boston's Mayor b rings Wreath

During the exercises Roland B. Robinson lead in the singing of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and E. T. S. Boatner in "America."

When Mayor Curley arrived he brought with him a wreath of galax leaves and carnations which he

placed at the base of the monument. "No fact in American history can be more worthy of remembrance than the occasion which the city of Boston joins you in celebrating today," he said. "The death of Crispus Attucks, who was neither a slave nor a free man, but a fugitive from a master, had the fire of freedom in his breast and led that little band of martyrs to spill their blood on State street."

Condemns Evils of Lynching

The mayor said that such a meeting as this is fitting on the sacred soil of Boston Common, and from it a message should go far and wide. He said he had long had earnestly hoped that the same law that is applied so rigorously to counterfeiters and other criminals might be applied to any one who has the least share in lynchings or burnings at the stake.

"All men are entitled to trial by jury, regardless of color, creed or nationality, and if that is disregarded, we proclaim our unworthiness to be American citizens. Equality and justice are not for the few but for all, and no race deserves them more than the one which never yet has had in its ranks a traitor to the United States."

In closing, the mayor read John Boyle O'Reilly's poem dedicated to Crispus Attucks.

Such a report in the Transcript of honor by black and white to a Colored American surely helps the race and should cause our race to love the Equal Rights League.

Dr. Alfred P. Russsell, Jr., District Grand Master of the G. U. O. O. F. of Mass. lived up to his reputation as an orator in his magnificent plea for even handed justice for the Colored man. He emphasized the three great principles of government as "life, law and liberty for enjoyment and de- law to give protection and security and liberty for employment and development of citizenship." He closed with these lines:—

For God and for Country
For Life, Law, Liberty,
Struggle, Struggle, Struggle on.
Fear not, hate not anyone.

Following the Mayor's address by a unanimous vote the vast audience voted endorsement of the Dyer anti-lynching bill that such be sent the U. S. Senate.

MASS MEETING AT 12th BAPTIST CHURCH

Monday night the celebration was concluded with a mass meeting in the 12th Baptist Church on Shawmut Avenue. Miss Battie Fortune, an accomplished young lady of Boston read John Boyle O'Reiley's famous poem on Crispus Attucks. She was followed by Attorney Edwin B. Jourdain of New Bedford, the Attucks Day orator, who gave a splendid address on our American birthright as a race of citizens.

Attucks Oration

"Our rights to citizenship did not come through federal Amendments," said the speaker; "We are born citizens because we have paid the price with our blood. We are as much Americans as any other people. This is our country and we are going to stay here they can't drive us away." Mr. Jourdain cited the act of Crispus Attucks as the entering wedge for the American revolution. "If there had been no Crispus Attucks," he said, there would have been no George Washington." He gave a brief history of Attucks and followed this with the record of Colored soldiers in the American army since that time. "Remember that you are American citizens, in your own country, your rights paid for," he said.

Attorney-General Allen entered while Mr. Jourdain was speaking and was greeted with liberal applause which continued several minutes.

Attorney General Speaks

Atty.-Gen. J. Weston Allen, speaking at the meeting last night said: "I believe your race is coming into your inheritance fast today. Your patience, well doing, and struggles are bringing you into better relations than you realize, and you have reason to look forward to better and better things for your children. A great French student has said: 'There are no inferior peoples, only peoples of inferior opportunity.' "

Rev. E. E. Thompson, pastor of the Mass. Avenue Baptist Church, thrilled the audience in an eloquent and forceful address on "The Means to the End," following by an offering of $42.00 for expenses of church, printing, etc., and work of League.

Following Mr. Allen's speech Mr. Trotter announced that the Attorney-General wanted to meet Editor Smitherman and his wife who were present and they were escorted to the rostrum and publicly introduced.

The burden of the speeches was that the time had come for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill, now in the hands of the judiciary committee of the U. S. Senate.

Vote to Send Anti-lynching Prayer to Senate Judiciary Committee

The climax came when A. J. Smitherman, who escaped from the Tulsa massacre and finally reached Boston with his wife and children, read a "prayer to Congress by a survivor of a lynching massacre," which was adopted by the assembly and voted to be sent to the judiciary committee and the President of the Senate, Vice President Coolidge, by the Equal Rights League.

The evening meeting was presided over by E. T. Morris, president of the Boston Branch of the National Equal Rights League, who was introduced by Dr. M. A. N. Shaw, president of the national league.

The celebration of 'Citizenship Day in Boston has met with general favor and officials of the League have been highly commended for their work in bringing it about.

Lynchings Drive Negroes North, Declares Cockran

Tammany Congressman Hopes Dyer Bill Will Awaken South to Situation—Deplores Ostracism Which Excludes Colored Worker From All but Menial Jobs.

N Y C CALL
FEBRUARY 13. 1922

(By Federated Press)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—That horror of death by lynching is the motive behind the wholesale exodus of Negroes of the South, where their economic interests lie, to the North, where they are virtually outcasts from economic security, is the central argument of Bourke Cockran, one of the few Democrats who supported the anti-lynching bill when it recently passed the House. He professed no faith in the efficacy of the measure to stop lynchings, but he hoped it would awaken the South to the need for putting an end to this horror, and to saving for the country the tremendous economic value of the Negro farmer and artisan of the South.

"From 1900 to 1910," he said, "the Negro population of the whole country increased 11.2 per cent. From 1910 to 1920 its increase was only 6.5 per cent. In the South, notwithstanding the enormous volume of wealth possessed by Negroes, the Negro population increased during the past 10 years only 1.9 per cent. In the North during the same period it increased 43.3 per cent and in the West 55.1 per cent.

Has No Chance for Job.

"Now, the portentous significance of these figures is that in many of these states to which the Negro is going his opportunities of employment are practically nil. According to the census the greatest increase of Negro population is in the states having large cities. In Michigan it reached the largest proportion—251 per cent—and in that state the census figures show 60,082 Negroes own farm property worth $43 per capita. In New England they own $13.62; in Pennsylvania, $11; in Massachusetts $8; in New York $7 per capita.

"It is surely ominous, it is startling, to find the Negro leaving states where his per capita wealth is extraordinarily large in farm lands alone—$303 in Texas, $326 in Oklahoma, $386 in Arkansas, $430 in Mississippi—and going in large numbers to territory where his average wealth is less than $50. I believe these figures show that this movement of Negroes from land where their prosperity is assured and their wealth already extensive to seek a livelihood in other lands where their position is difficult, their possessions few and their prospects of improvement fewer still can be explained only on one ground, and that is the prevalence of lynching in the States where they have acquired the largest measure of property. . . . I cannot conceive of any explanation of this movement so radically opposed to their own material interests, unless it be their horror of death by lynching. . . . Lynching is abhorrent to every instinct of humanity and destructive of civilization itself."

Have Only Porter's Job Left.

Entering into an examination of the steady deterioration of the industrial position of the Negro in New York, Cochran declared that since he was a young man they have been gradually crowded out of the many lines which they then controlled, until today they have nothing but the Pullman car porter's task to call their own. From the job of hotel waiter, bootblack, white wash worker and mechanic the Negro has been excluded. He finds himself unable to associate with white men even in their trade unions. His wages for a job which he does secure are less than those paid a white man for the same service.

"Indeed it is a sober statement of fact," Cockran said, "that the whole industrial system of the country, outside of the South, practically excludes the Negro from all opportunity of gaining an honest livelihood.

"Even this does not exhaust the list of his difficulties. Driven by imperative necessity to seek the shelter of a roof, he is invariably charged higher rent than a white man for similar accommodations. And the moment he finds a lodging in any locality, white men and women flee from it as if a plague were scouraging it, with the result that in New York and all other great cities of the North, large areas are given over to the exclusive occupation of Negroes.

Whole Nation Must Suffer.

"Into these Negro quarters, except a police officer or sanitary inspector no white man ever enters unless he is compelled to pass through them in going from one part of the city to another. . . . Isolated in quarters usually squalid, paid less than the white man for what he does, charged more for what he requires, his opportunities for industrial development ever narrowing, is it any exaggeration to say that his condition and prospects are well-nigh desperate?"

From this unnatural condition, the Tammany orator argued, the whole nation and civilization at large must inevitably suffer. The fact that great numbers of those Southern Negro farmers and artisans are forced to abandon the place where they are creating prosperity for themselves and their children, to go into exile which involves a virtual re-enslavement in industry, he declared was an evil omen for America's future progress. He believed that the exclusion of Negroes from industrial opportunity in the North was spontaneous, and not the result of any conspiracy. It was a thing which could not be controlled by law. White men could not and should not be compelled to work alongside of Negroes if they did not choose to do so. Nor should unions be forced to admit them. The problem was deeper than a mere command of law. The Negro should be given security of life and economic development in the South, where he felt more at home. Once the curse of lynching was lifted, and men in the South permitted organized government to function, the restoration of the Negro to his right in the national economy would be possible.

THE SENATE AND THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

New York Herald 3/5/22

Alarming reports persist in coming out of Washington that the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, which has passed the house of Representatives will be allowed to die in a Senate Committee, as a large number of Republican Senators are opposed to the bill, and do not want to have it come before the Senate, and as they should want to vote with the solid Democratic minority against its passage. This is particularly true of those Senators whose terms are expiring, and who will seek a re-election this year. They do not want to be forced to go on record. There should be power enough somewhere to constrain them to go on record. If they are cowards and traitors in standing by the platform promises of the party they should be made to show it by their votes on this test measure of Republican promise and sincerity, so that their constituents may know how to vote them in the primaries.

The splendid forces which were concentrated on the work of urging the Republican majority in the House of Representatives to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill should be concentrated on the Republican Senate for the like purpose. Only Republican cowards and traitors like Congressman Wayne Parker of New Jersey, Bascom Slemp of Virginia, and others, who voted against it in the House, will vote against it in the Senate. They should be forced to go on record.

If a new Senator, such as John Wharton Pepper, who succeeded Boise Penrose of Pennsylvania, should take hold of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill and force consideration of it he would immortalize himself as a champion of law and order by due process of law.

Lynchings — 1922
Legislation
1069

Belated Solicitude For State's Rights

"Is the once proud Republic of Texas to be henceforth classed as an outlying province of the Washington Government?" asks the Waco Times-Herald.

Houston Tex. Post 3/9/22

Questions of similar purport frequently appear in the Times-Herald, and, now that a senatorial campaign is in progress, candidates are beginning to speak right out in behalf of State Rights.

It is noteworthy, too, that other phases of our government are being discussed. Professor Potts of the university has been pointing out serious defects in our State system, the executive department of which, he declares, "is an unorganized, uncentralized bunch of boards and officers, and does not function as a government."

If we understand Professor Potts, he would go to greater lengths in centralizing the executive power of the State, since he regards as an impossibility the enforcement of law by local juries, judges, sheriffs and county attorneys.

So we have the distinguished Waco journalist demanding a decentralizing of the Federal government, and the university professor advising greater centralization of State authority in the executive branch.

Whatever the merits of the demand for less centralization of authority in the Federal government, The Post is quite certain that it is rather late to make an issue of State Rights.

Step by step the people have added to the power of the Federal government until at this time congress does not stand in awe of State constitutions or statutes; neither does the Federal judiciary.

Whenever congress enacts, and its enactment comes in contact with a State constitution or statutes, down goes the State constitution or statute.

That is all clear enough, and the situation seems to be quite satisfactory to the great majority of the people.

Much is heard now about the pending Dyer anti-lynching bill, and some of our congressmen are opposing it on the ground that it is a wanton invasion of the police powers of the States.

But it is certainly not any more such an invasion than was the Eighteenth amendment and the laws enacted to make it effective. Yet most of our congressmen voted for the submission of the amendment, and our legislature was quick to ratify it.

Who doubts that within a few years the Federal government will exercise quite as much authority over the highways of the country as it now exercises over the railways? Isn't that what the expenditure of Federal money on the highways means?

What was the meaning the other day when the South Carolina senate asked the South Carolina senators and representatives in congress to introduce and support a bill prohibiting the growing of cotton every other year for a period of years?

What is the meaning of such measures as the Sheppard maternity act?

What is the meaning of the increasing demands upon the Federal government for educational outlay and control?

What are the Federal courts doing nowadays except spending most of their time hearing minor criminal causes, which already are violations of State laws?

A large number of Federal statutes might be mentioned that have the effect of deflowering the States of their sovereignty, and some of them were designed to improve the morals of the people.

It must be assumed that these far-reaching changes in our ideals of government are approved by the people, else they could not stand, and certainly our Southern congressmen have done as much, if not more than the statesmen of other sections, to make the Federal government more powerful, the State governments less powerful, and the individual a thoroughly Federal-regulated citizen.

Dyer Bill (National)

"Will it stop soon?" our Waco contemporary is wont to ask. Yes, it will have to stop soon, for with control of the highways and schools, an anti-lynching bill, a Federal election law and a Federal statute on marriage and divorce—and these are almost certain—the States as governmental entities would scarcely rise to the dignity of provinces.

We direct the attention of our contemporary to the other fact that the people themselves have ordained these things. Nothing in the form of authority has been stolen from them. For the most part they have been trading off their local powers for appropriations, and then going into their own pockets for the money to enable the Federal government to rule them.

NEW LYNCHING STATISTICS

New York Age 3/25/22

When the debate on the Dyer Bill began in the House of Representatives the Southern Congressmen started out all primed with the old argument that lynching was caused by rape and was practiced only as a punishment for rape. Every Southern Congressman who arose to speak on the Bill attempted to impress upon the House that lynching would not stop until rape was abolished. Some of them attempted eloquently to defend this ancient Southern institution by pulling on the tremolo stops in their voices and painting heart-rending pictures of white girls of tender age being assaulted and choked to death by "burly black brutes."

But as the debate went on these statements became weaker and weaker, because each time a Southern Congressman made them a supporter of the Bill arose and knocked the argument silly by producing figures which showed that in not one-fourth of the known cases of lynching was there even a charge of rape.

It now appears, from a Southern paper which we have at hand, that some Southerners are going to busy themselves to make some new lynching statistics for use in the fight in the Senate. They realize that the figures they had to go up against in the House knocked both the top and bottom out of their arguments defending lynching. They propose to show that the majority of lynchings are for rape. The newspaper requesting the making of these statistics concludes with the following paragraph:

> "A newspaper undertaking to compile such statistics for the State of Georgia could thereby render a tremendous public service, not only to the State but to the entire country; and if some reliable paper in Georgia should undertake to perform such a service, I believe that responsible people in the other States would busy themselves with compiling similar statistics for the presentation to their Senators before the Dyer Bill comes up in the Senate."

In the authoritative data which has been gathered for the last thirty odd years, murder is the charge always in excess of rape. Now, these Southern statisticians are setting out to prove that whenever the charge averred is murder it simply means that the victim who is lynched committed both rape and murder and that, therefore, the murder charge should also be counted as charges of rape.

We, however, do not feel that there is any chance, no matter how clever the statisticians of Dixie may be, of compiling within the next fe wweeks any lynching tables that will take the place of the authentic figures that have been accumulated and tabulated for the last thirty-five years.

LYNCHING AND FEDERAL JUSTICE

Chicago Daily Tribune 1/23/22

A bill to give the federal government jurisdiction in mob disorders and lynchings has been passed by the house of representatives. It aims to allow the United States to intervene in the police power of the state, and holds the delinquent local authorities accountable to the central government and the county which has not protected a victim from mob violence responsible to the extent of $10,000, to be paid the family or other heirs of the victim.

One of the difficulties in prosecuting in cases of mob violence is found in the local pressure brought on the prosecutors. If the community has condoned the lynching, it protects the lynchers, and the authorities are prevented by community sentiment from taking and punishing the offenders.

In such cases, the federal prosecutors, not being dependent upon local politics to the extent that other authorities are, might proceed with greater vigor and effectiveness to get the leaders of the mob and punish them.

Presumably, the bill is particularly aimed at the south; not because the north does not have lynching and does not allow offenders to escape, but because the south is supposed to have more community sympathy for lynchers and to afford less chance of punishment.

Sentiment in the south is rapidly turning against mob lawlessness, we believe, and that is the correction of such abuses. No community can be entirely safe against an outbreak of mob violence. The evil thing is when the community condones the lawless punishment of crime and adopts it as a procedure. The invasion of state police power by the central government would tighten up justice, but the price is pretty stiff.

Federal judges are appointed, and they are appointed for life, which makes for independence. Prosecution is more vigorous and more certain than in the state courts; but, rather than adopt this expedient to cure community diseases, we'd prefer to see the community work out its own salvation.

That would mean betterment from the ground up, which is better than having it handed down from the top; and the American social system ought not to be confessing constantly its failure and inability to develop a lawful society.

Even in such terrible disorders as lynchings it is better to have the correction come from the awakened conscience of the people than to take a short cut through the reserved powers of the state to justice handed down from Washington.

The state threat against national unity has disappeared, but the state remains an important social and administrative component of the nation, and its powers and responsibilities should not be broken down persistently by the centralization of duties and powers in federal bureaucracy.

CLEVELAND O PLAINDEALER
JANUARY 6 1922

The Anti-Lynch Bill

Sixty-three or sixty-four men and women were lynched in the United States last year. The coun

varies slightly. Well over 4,000 have been lynched since definite enumeration began in 1885. More than sixty of last year's victims were murdered by mobs in southern states.

It was with such shocking figures as these in mind that the authors of the anti-lynching bill, now pending in the national house, went about their task of framing federal legislation to guarantee to citizens the equal protection of law which has in effect been denied them by some of the states. The proposal is assailed on constitutional grounds. To the American sense of justice and fair play, however, it appeals more strongly than does a legalistic quibble over the right of the national government to take the step recommended.

The bill is before the house with the indorsement of the judiciary committee. The minority of the committee dissents. This minority, it is interesting to note, is composed of Representative Sumners of Texas, whose state was guilty of seven lynchings last year; Montague of Virginia, in which state one lynching occurred; Wise of Georgia—Georgia mobs murdered eleven in 1921—Tillman of Arkansas—six Arkansans were mob victims—and Dominick of South Carolina, representing a state guilty of five mob murders last year.

Congressmen still pretending faith in the old state's right doctrine argue that the passage of such a measure as this would constitute an indefensible invasion by the federal government of the police power of the states. The decisions, however, seem to be against this contention. The question of constitutionality aside, it will appear to fair minded people generally that when states fail signally to afford their citizens the protection of law guaranteed them by the constitution there can be no great injustice done when the national government steps in to supply the deficiency. The best way to prevent such an "invasion" would be for the states to stop evading their own duty in respect to this crime which every year blackens the fame of America.

Every newspaper reader is familiar with the fact that from time to time the national government is obliged to make the humiliating confession that it is powerless to make good its express constitutional guarantee that no one shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law. Files of the state departments show many such confessions in the form of official communications with governments abroad. Compensation for the lynching of aliens by American mobs has run into hundreds of thousands of dollars. The United States can pay after the damage is done, but under existing law it cannot prevent the damage.

Reduced to its simplest terms, the anti-lynching bill proposes to permit the federal government to give to individuals the protection of law which the states cannot or refuse to give—a protection of law guaranteed alike by the federal constitution and by most of the state constitutions. Anyone can read into such a suggestion a threat to destroy or impair our form of government he is welcome to his interpretation, but the country is not impressed by it.

A Wise Resolution.

Vardaman's Paper
Southern Times
Jan 27 1922

State Senator T. G. McCallum of Jones County has introduced a resolution in the Senate memorializing Congress on the race question. In the Whereases of the resolution, Senator McCallum states some very pertinent and everlasting truths. In substance, he asks the Congress of the United States to provide for the deportation of the negroes and the complete segregation of the races. In his effort, the distinguished Senator is striving for the right. He is doing a good work.

The preservation of the purity of the white race is the most important matter before the people of the world. I think the feasible thing to be done, however, is to provide for the complete segregation of the races by law which would necessitate the repeal of the 15th and modification of the 14th amendments to the Federal Constitution. The enactment of the vicious piece of legislation introduced by the foolish little Congressman from Missouri on Anti-Lynching makes it necessary to do something radical in the matter of removing race hatred and preventing race conflicts. A gentleman was talking with me about it the other day and said, he thought this man from Missouri was employed by the Klu Klux organization to bring about conditions that would strengthen and make necessary that organization. As to that I do not know. But I do know that the negroes' disposition to violate the persons of white women is about the only defintely marked influence of the white man's civilization upon the negro. Just to think that a race that has been under the influence of the white man for 300 years, educated, christianized, being a menace to the peace of the white man's home and the purity of his family—more dreadful than the wild beasts of the forest or the wild man of America a century ago. If nothing is done by the wise men for the protection of the women of our land, there will be nothing left to do but to destroy the brute that dares to invade the white man's home and lay its poisonous paws on the fairest flower in that home. And then, when the scoundrel's family sue under the terms of the Anti-Lynching Bill for the father who has been hung, pay attention to the members of the family in a way that will make them cautious if not wise.

TAMPA FLA TRIBUNE
JANUARY 1 1922

THE SOUTH MUST STOP LYNCHING

In an early issue of the Southern Agriculturist E. E. Miller, the editor, will discuss the Dyer anti-lynching bill now before Congress. He will say:

It would be unfortunate if the Dyer bill, now before Congress, should become a law. This bill seeks to give the federal government jurisdiction in cases of lynching and imposes penalties on counties in which lynchings take place. Its passage would mean the greatest encroachment yet made upon the powers of the states by the federal government. In fact, it would give to the federal government so much of the police power reserved to the states by the constitution that its constitutionality is very doubtful. We are hoping taht it will not be passed, but its discussion at this time may be a good thing. It will be if the south correctly interprets it as a sign of the times and draws the proper conclusions from the support it is receiving.

A few months ago the editor wrote an article on this very subject, and it was published in a northern magazine. We can not more explicitly state our views than by quoting from it:

"It is, under our form of government, the legal and moral right of every state to punish its own criminals. Federal interference with this right would be risky, and should be unnecessary. A federal law against lynching, federal interference in the capture and prosecution of persons accused of lynching, would be bad for us in more than one way. It would be bad because it would lead the national government into the exercise of police powers yet reserved to the states, because it would take away from the state and the local community the right to administer their own affairs ,and because it would almost certainly lead to a weakening of the fiber of local law and to a loss of self-confidence and self-reliance on the part of the communities affected by its application.

There remains, however, a higher, more sacred right than the right of the state to the exclusive exercise of the police powers within its bounds. That is the right of the individual citizen to have the benefit of the guarantee and the protection the law is supposed to give him. If a state fails to protect its citizens in their constitutional rights, the nation must sooner or later take that protection upon itself. I write as a southerner, from a southern viewpoint and with the southerner's traditional — and I think justifiable—desire to see each state left as nearly free as prudence permits to deal with its own particular problems. It is as a southerner that I say that lynchings, and such race riots as grow out of lynchings or attempted lynchings, are not going to be tolerated much longer by the sconscience of this country or of the world, and that if the states do not stop lynchings the nation will—and should—do it."

The votes already had on the Dyer bill seem to us abundant justification of the prophecy then made. Lynchings can be stopped—not every lynching, of course, but the long series of lynchings we have become accustomed to expect from the year's beginning to its end. They are going to be stopped. It is up to the southern states to stop their part—by far the largest part—of them. The people of the south must no longer fool themselves with excuses for lynching parties and condonation of mob law. The man who has nothing to offer in a case like this but talk about "first stopping the crimes that cause lynchings," or about a law against lynching being "a law to encourage crime against women" is not helping any. He is but hastening the day of federal interference, but making such interference inevitable. The white people of the south have listened too long to such talk, while trying to find in it some excuse or justification for their failure to deal with mobs and mob violence. Nor is it worth while for the white people at this time to waste much energy appealing to the negroes to help in the detection and punishment of negro offenders against the white race. Until the whites have shown a real purpose to detect and to punish white offenders against the negro race, even against negroes accused of crime, they need not expect the negroes to be very active in bringing members of their own race to book. To expect it, is to expect more of the black men, who are merely bound by the laws, than of the white men, who have made and who administer the laws.

There has been too much of futile and evasive talk about this matter. It has been played with and dodged too long. The repeated lynchings in the south have become a sectional disgrace and a national scandal. They—we repeat it—are going to be stopped. If we of the south do not stop them, they will be stopped by the federal government, and our failure to do the thing we yet have the chance to do will be probably to our lasting disadvantage and certainly to our everlasting discredit. * * * * *

N Y C TIMES
JANUARY 27, 1922

Unwilling to Pay for Lynching.

A cynic might deduce from the bitterness of the opposition manifested in Congress to the passage of the anti-lynching law that thus a precious privilege would be taken away. None of the eloquent orators who are fighting the bill have any good words to say for mob violence, but evidently they assume that it will continue unless communities and local officials are held to a money responsibility for what they do or fail to do.

That is not a complete and therefore not quite a fair statement of the case as those who are against the bill see it, but it is not far from the truth. No State or town where lynching was prevented by efficient and timely action ever would have to pay any penalties under the proposed law. Only those doubtful of their own powers or intentions can be afraid of it.

Lynchings – 1922
Legislation

Dyer Bill (National)

SHERIFFS AND LYNCHERS

Chicago Defender 2/24/22

In all the arguments against the anti-lynching bill which is now before the United States Senate, we have as yet to hear anyone say that, a sheriff or any other peace officer did their duty in protecting their prisoner when a lynching occured.

Everybody knows that mobs are made up of cowards, and protected criminals. For the leader of a mob to walk boldly up to a sheriff or a jailer and demand a prisoner from the hands of the law, there are three things that he must have assurance of before hand.

First, that the sheriff or other officer is in sympathy with the mob and will not shoot;

Second, that his acts will be approved by the county in which the lynching occurs;

Third, that not one member of the mob will be prosecuted or made to suffer in the least for the part they play in a lynching.

With these three strong points in the mob's favor, is there any wonder that lynchings for mere trivils are quite common in some communities in the South?

We have never heard of a prisoner being taken from a sheriff or other peace officer that did their duty. Begging and persuading mobs, is inviting an attack.

With such conditions prevailing, there is absolutely no hope of ever putting an end to lynching unless the United States government takes a hand in the matter.

It is charged by some that the anti-lynching bill usurps state's rights, but the fact in the case is, the law will strengthen state rights. Its operation will be a strong arm in helping to enforce the State laws.

Every state through its parent body guarantees to every man the equal protection of the law, and the right to life, liberty and property without interference, except by due process of law.

The several states in whose confines lynching is most prevalant should be proud to have the assistance of the Federal government in protecting its citizens from mob law.

The Federal government owes it to the several states to give such assistance.

DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL PASSES HOUSE

The Messenger Feb 1922

THE Dyer Bill passed the House of Representatives.

It has yet to pass the Senate, to be signed by the President, to be declared constitutional by the United States Supreme Court. Perhaps it will go on its course safely. We doubt it; yet we hope it will. All Negroes, of course, and all workers, as well, of all creeds, color and nationalities, but of enlightened self-interest, should pull for the Dyer Bill. For even if the Bill should fail to pass the Senate, or passing the Senate, is vetoed by the President, a very great improbability; or is declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, the light of publicity shed on the heinous crime of lynching, would make the enterprise of immeasureable value.

Education and agitation will establish the justice and merit of the Bill. The Supreme Court can only establish its constitutionality. The Supreme Court, during the while the Slave Power of the South dominated the economic and political life of the country, upheld slavery, the right of one man to own and sell another. We would not at all be surprised if it should uphold lynching today.

Of course, lynching is, as a rule, the pastime of rural communities. The South is being gradually industrialized. This was the chief significance of Mr. Harding's speech at Birmingham. And it may not be unlikely that the need for a more contented and less timorous mass of unskilled labor, which is not possible in a lynching-ridden section, that the American money power will decree the enactment of drastic measures against this dreadful evil.

Besides, there is a certain type known as the new Negro now, who cannot be cowed and intimidated so easily, who show signs of fight. This certainly will cause trouble. It was all right so long as the Negro meekly submitted to the South's indignities and injustices. One or two dead "niggers" every now and then didn't matter much. But when the black brother begins fighting; that's a different song. Something must be done. Because the Negro cannot work and fight, too. As we had a "work or fight" order during war; we also have a "work or fight" order in the industrial war. Now, since the higher capitalism is invading the bourbon, feudalistic South, it requires stable, satisfied labor. It might be necessary even to grant them the ballot. For, after all, what's a vote when you haven't got to count it. Why they don't even count the white working people's votes in New York. It must be thoroughly understood that *American democracy* does not mean the rule of the people. Not at all. It means the rule of *certain white people*. This is true both North and South.

However, we are for the Dyer Bill whether it stops lynching or not. The New York *World* fears that it won't. Nor, might we add, do laws against murder and theft stop those crimes. Yet we are too civilized to advocate their repeal.

Yes, we are for the Bill if we do suspect the motives of some of those who pass it.

A benefit is a benefit whether it comes from a devil or a saint.

We know that leopards don't change their spots. Nor have those fossilized Democratic and Republican Congressmen had any baptism of social and political justice. They care nothing about justice. But the exodus of 500,000 Negroes to the North, East and West, sections where they can vote, gives them cause for worry about their political fences during the coming elections. Just as the Negro has fought back physically; it is feared and suspected that he might also fight back politically. And, of course, that will never do!

Thus we find the most dyed-in-wool reactionaries, Republicans and Democrats for and against the Bill. And, upon examination, it will very likely be found that a good number of thosefor the Bill (Democrats and Republicans) hail from States where the Negro has a considerable vote. In politics, you don't get anything for nothing. Politics is a reflex of economics. In economics commodities and services are bought and sold. Thus politicians simply echo the will of their economic masters.

Now about the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. What part did it play? It did not change or soften the hearts of those old, crafty political aces by presenting lynching exhibits, or figures of mob victims. That old crowd have only tears for lost votes, patronage and "pork." The chief work of the N. A. A. C. P. consisted in publicity and propaganda. This made those old weazened politicians feel that perhaps the public is about to demand that something be done about this American sport. For this splendid work, it deserves no grudging mead of praise.

DRASTIC ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

African World 1/28/22

1070

U.S. Congress moves in Matter Denounced by Africans.

London England

During the Pan-African Congress sessions last year when West African delegates joined in the denunciation of racial discrimination, the subject of lynching in the United States justifiably aroused much heat. It will interest Afro-Americans and Africans alike to know that there has just been brought before the American Congress a Federal Anti-Lynching Bill, which will impose a fine of 10,000 dollars upon every county within the borders of which a lynching occurs.

Referring to this Bill a correspondent of the "Manchester Guardian" says:—

"If there is any crime for which it is meet to make the whole body of citizens suffer, it is surely that of overriding the due processes of law in order to inflict summary vengeance upon a suspected person who has been allowed no opportunity of self-defence in the courts. Lynching is not an outbreak of uncontrolled passion on the part of a single individual. It is the work of a mob, and a mob which, in the Southern States, often includes many of the most respected and influential members of the community.

"Hitherto, the task of suppressing this crime has been left in America to the State Legislatures and the State officials. But, *ex hypothesi*, it is in the very districts where the offence is most rampant that the pressure of local opinion can be least trusted to supply and enforce a corrective. Yet this is not a matter in which any State can justly claim to be independent of outside interference, for the continued prevalence of such disorders in any part of the country grievously affects the reputation of the entire nation. Americans are not easily persuaded to attempt any reform that impairs State rights but the failure of the present system has at last produced a wide-spread conviction that Federal intervention is necessary to cope with this evil. In each of the last four years no less than sixty lives have been taken by lynching mobs in different parts of the country.

"The bill now before Congress

has a weighty backing, having been approved by the Attorney General and favourably reported upon by the House Committee on the Judiciary, and the Congressional leaders are confident that it will become law before the close of the present session. In addition to the clause above mentioned, it prescribes a term of imprisonment, ranging from five years to a life sentence, for everyone convicted of taking part in a lynching, and inflicts a heavy fine and imprisonment up to five years upon every State or municipal officer who neglects to guard any person within his protection from death at the hands of a mob. Whether such an enactment will be constitutional cannot, of course, be definitely decided until a test case arising under it has been carried to the Supreme Court at Washington. Its advocates, however, have the support of the Attorney General in relying upon the provision of the Constitution which guarantees to every citizen protection from being deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, supplemented as it is by the further provision that Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

"It was with regard to other matters than lynching that Mr. Elihu Root several years ago addressed to the State Governments a warning that neglect of their responsibilities would compel the Federal Government, however reluctantly, to step in . . . . The lynching evil is certainly one which in a special degree would justify the employment of so drastic a remedy."

Professor Sir William Boyd Dawkins, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.G.S., etc., who spent some time travelling and investigating conditions in the States at the end of last century, wrote an interesting comment to the "Manchester Guardian" on the foregoing. While narrating the history of lynch law (Lynch Laws), which makes it seem less brutal in its early days than it does in the different circumstances of modern times, he also emphasises the fact that "The bill before Congress with regard to lynching, . . . marks a definite stage in the evolution of law and order in the United States. It imposes a fine of 10,000 dollars on the county in which the lynching occurs, making the community responsible for the public opinion that sanctions this method of dealing with offences, and inflicting imprisonment and heavy fines on the principals and abettors, and even on the officials who fail to defend the prisoners in their charge under the common law. It marks the time when the common law can be efficiently executed throughout the whole of the United States."

The opponents to the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill are now gloomily announcing that it will never pass the United States Senate. They are relying upon the combined Democratic opposition to the measure to encompass its final defeat. We do not see why this should be so. The white South has significantly announced its abhorrence of lynch-law and Democratic Governors have from time to time proven that they mean what they say by ordering out State troops to protect white and colored men charged with crime and threatened with summary execution by the mob.

This bill is intended to strengthen the arm of the law. No one who voted for the prohibition amendment to the Constitution or who advocated Woman Suffrage by amendment to this same instrument should for a moment hesitate to support this Dyer Anti-lynching Bill on account of States' Rights scruples. We hope to see the measure enacted into law and we hope to have the pleasure of knowing that President Harding has signed it.

As the legislature of Virginia is now in session and as it passed a resolution instructing its representatives in Congress to vote against the Dyer Anti-lynching Bill and as every effort has been made in this State to check the lynching evil and Virginia shows a fine record in this respect, we would suggest that the legislature, which evidently took this action on account of State's Rights proceed to enact into law, the Smith Anti-lynching Bill now in operation in the State of Ohio.

A SUNDAY LYNCHING.

The desecration of the Sabbath Day at Harlem last Sunday by the lynching of Alfred Williams, colored, for shooting at a white man, brings back to memory the burning of Sam Hose at the stake in Coweta county during Governor Candler's administration.

The barbarity and revolting savagery perpetrated against the laws of God and man on the Lord's day by the burning of Sam Hose at the stake still lingers in the minds of decent Americans. And at this date that an American citizen should be overtaken by a mob and hung to a limb publicly for shooting at another, makes it all important that the Federal government, at least, exercise itself for the protection of human life through the Dyer bill or some other measure more drastic. It is revolting, it is fearful to contemplate that the great government at Washington will spend millions a year to apprehend and convict men and women for selling whiskey for a living, and will sit idly by, like Nero fiddled when Rome burned, and see citizens—men and women—taken up and deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law, and make no effort to either apprehend or convict the guilty parties.

What can our delegation in Congress say against the passing of the Dyer bill in the teeth of the lynching of Alfred Williams in Columbia county, the home of Senator Watson's newspaper, the Columbia Sentinel? What can Senator Watson say for law and order? What can Congressman Upshaw, who has been preaching and praying for a quarter of a century that the Kingdom of God prevail on earth, say when he reads in the Associated Press dispatches that this helpless Negro was apprehended, taken up and hanged to a tree until he was dead for merely shooting at a white man? Alfred Williams was not accused of rape, not of murder, robbery or arson, if we are to believe the Associated Press dispatches, but he was accused of having shot at a white man. Has the shooting at a white man or any other kind of man become a capital offense in Georgia, of such nature that the accused must be executed without charge, indictment or trial, that the citizens in broad daylight on the Lord's day, without mask or disguise, before the sheriff or the hands of the law could apprehend the accused, should take his life without due process of law.

Is the suppression of the whisky traffic in this country more important that the preservation of human life? Does the government at Washington think it means more for the perpetuity of our institution to run down, hound down, conjure up and set traps and create criminals to suppress the whiskey traffic at any cost than it does to preserve human life? Is the destroying of a quart of moonshine worth more in morals and law to the government than the apprehension and conviction of the thousands of murderers, who under the darkness of night and disguise, sneak around and prey upon human life like vultures?

The republican party pledged itself in National Convention to suppress lynching and to do away with mob law. The Dyer bill is the first step in that direction, and there is no excuse for sectional opposition, so long as any section permits outlaws to roam at will and take human life. The argument of the police power of the state goes to naught upon the failure of the state to adequately enforce its police powers. Every citizen is entitled to the protection of a constitutional government. The Constitution of our country guarantees to every man the right to life, property and the pursuit of happiness, and if the states cannot afford the citizens a republican form of government in which every citizen can enjoy, without molestation, his constitutional rights—his life, his property and pursuits of happiness unmolested—it is the duty of the federal government to step in and take charge, in order to preserve our institution.

It cannot be argued that lynching only seeks to avenge the unspeakable and unthinkable crime. Rape is no longer the only cause of the mob taking the law into its hands. The mobs are lynching Negroes for the slightest provocation, and without any provocation, and the Dyer bill seeks to check this outlawry. Let every member of the Georgia delegation in congress, fourteen strong, hang their heads in shame when they think of the opposition to the passage of the Dyer bill, when exercised in the light of mob rule and the desecration of God's day in Columbia county, the home of Senator Watson's paper, last Sunday. How can "Earnest Willie," the man whom all Georgia honors and esteems and in whose Christianity they believe, reconcile his opposition to this bill that only seeks to protect human life, when he reads of the lynching of Alfred Williams at Harlem last Sunday?

Louisiana Citizens Favor Anti-Lynch Bill

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Shreveport, La.—At an Emancipation Celebration held here by Negro citizens of the city, January 1, 1922, the following resolutions were adopted.

Whereas, Representative Aswell of Louisiana, did on the floor of the House of Representatives and through the Public Press, assert that the peaceful and law-abiding Negroes of the South are not interested in the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, nor legislation to that effect, and

Whereas, we regard lynching as one of the greatest crimes against civilization, and

Whereas, we desire the public to know that Congressman Aswell does not speak the sentiments of the peaceful and law-abiding Negroes of the South; that we not only favor the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, but any other legislation that will insure life, liberty, and the pusuit of happiness, and

Whereas, we favor punishment of all criminals through legal process of law, therefore

Be it Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions be sent to Congressman Dyer, Representative Aswell, the Speakers of the House and Senate, the Associated Negro Press, and the President of the United States.

CITIZENS COMMITTEE

N Y C WORLD

FEBRUARY 2. 1922

THE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

To the Editor of The World:

I observe that your valuable paper contends that the Anti-Lynching Bill is unconstitutional, inasmuch as it interferes with State sovereignty. This is in all probability true in many respects, and I am not legally able to dispute nor controvert this contention.

But is it not a fact that a number of pernicious bills were put over on the States not so long ago and no protests were heard from any source? Most unusual, is it not, that whenever a bill is passed with some semblance of good in it for the unfortunates in our unhappy country all the legal experts get busy trying to pick flaws in it?

Assuming for a moment that it is unconstitutional, I still maintain that even if it would only save the life of one unfortunate black man from the hands of the Southern white degenerates it would be worth while. No matter what happens, something must be done to prevent civilized savages from roasting human beings.

Every time I look a Negro in the face I feel like apologizing for being white. FRANCIS J. GALVIN.

New York, Jan. 30.

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation

1071

(Dyer Bill) National

New York Age
3/4/22

THE PASSAGE OF THE DYER BILL.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill passed the House of Representatives on Thursday, January 26, by a vote of 230 to 119, almost two to one. And so, more than half the battle to have a law on the Federal statute books making lynching a crime has been won.

The two last days of this fight in Congress were not without their spectacular features. As late as eleven o'clock on Tuesday morning, the 24th, the Republican leaders in the House were not wholly decided that they would make a final atempt to put the Bill over. A conference was held in the Speaker's office between that hour and the convening of the session at noon. It was then decided to begin the final push on Wednesday and to keep it up until the Bill was put through.

The colored people of Washington had heard that the Bill was to be taken up on Tuesday and there was quite a number of them in the galleries. They went away disappointed, but on the next day when the House convened at noon every available niche in the galleries was packed with colored spectators. The presence of so many colored people created a tenseness in the situation which otherwise would have been lacking. It produced a strong psychological effect even upon the members on the floor. When Mr. Mondell, Republican floor leader, rose to make the first speech of the day in support of the Bill, his voice was trembling with suppressed emotion. The pent-up feelings, both of the men on the floor and the people in the galleries, broke loose when a colloquy took place between Mr. Sissoms of Mississippi and Mr. Cooper of Wisconsin.

Mr. Sissoms in closing his speech declared that lynching would never stop until "the black rascals keep their hands off the throats of white women." Representative Cooper retorted that it was the first time he had heard lynch law justified on the floor of the House. The rest of Mr. Cooper's remarks were lost in the confusion, but Mr. Sissons shouted, "I dare you to say that again in any other place." At Mr. Cooper's statement five hundred or more colored people in the galleries rose as one man and cheered. Southern Democrats sprang to their feet and shouted at the colored people in the galleries. Some voice from the floor yelled out, "Sit down, niggers!" and some voice from the galleries cried out, "We are not niggers; you are a liar." For several minutes the Eentire chamber was in an uproar despite the efforts of Chairman Campbell of Kansas to restore order. Notwithstanding this, the presence of the colored people in the galleries had a decidedly good effect upon all of the deliberations.

When the Bill was taken up on Thursday there were not quite so many colored people present; yet, there was a large number, three hundred or more. The Republican leaders pressed the passage of the Bill as fast and as hard as it was possible to do so. By parliamentary strategy, they cut off the delaying tactics of the Democrats. The Bill, therefore, reached a vote much earlier than anyone had expected. The roll call on the final vote began at 3:02 in the afternoon and at 3:30 the Speaker declared the Bill passed.

During the last hours of the debate Southern members exceeded in violence and truculency all that they had said and done during the previous sessions. For example, Blanton of Texas virtually said, "You can pass this law if you want to, but whenever we think it necessary we will lynch Negroes just the same."

The Anti-Lynching Bill passed the House with fewer amendments than even its most sanguine supporters expected. Those amendments which were added do not in any way weaken the effectiveness of the Bill. The thing that was most feared by friends of the Bill was that emasculating amendments would be hitched on to it. At only one time during the debate under the five-minute rule was the real strength of the Bill in danger. A Republican member offered an amendment striking out the $10,000 penalty on those counties where a mob originated and where a lynching took place. The amendment would have been carried had it not been for the tactics adopted by the Democrats. The Democrats, in order to retain as many as possible of the features which they considered obnoxious in the Bill, voted to defeat the amendment. Therefore, the clauses providing the penalty of $10,000 were reained in the Bill. It was in this way that the real teeth were kept in the Bill.

It is true that a great deal will be gained by having men indicted for lynching tried in the Federal courts rather than in the state courts. When an attempt is made to try lynchers in the state courts, it is always made in the county in which the lynching is perpetrated, and everybody connected with the trial, from the judge down, is a neighbor, or a friend, or a relative of the accused. For these reasons it has been a matter of impossibility to secure convictions.

Under the jurisdiction of Federal courts such trials will be removed from the immediate vicinity, and men charged with the commission of lynching in one part of the state will be tried before strangers in another part of the state.

But after all, the main strength of the Bill is in the clauses providing for a penalty of $10,000 upon the county in which a mob seizes its victim and upon the county in which the victim is lynched. Trial or no trial, jury or no jury, communities will soon find a way to stop lynchings when they become expensive.

Under present conditions lynching in most Southern communities is an entertainment; it is a circus, the only difference being that no admission fee is charged. But when a lynching means an increase in taxes on the whole community, the whole community is going to make it its business to see that lynching is stopped.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill now goes to the Senate. The fight to make it a law is a little more than half won; but it is going to take hard work to put it through the upper house. Colored people anl law loving citizens everywhere should unite in an effort to see that it is done.

1071

SENATOR BORAH AND LYNCHING

Savannah Ga. Tribune
3/9/22

Is Convinced Lynching Is Wrong

Washington, District of Columbia, March 8th (Associated Negro Press)—"I am convinced that the National government should step in and take a stand against the wrong of lynching."

Thus spoke Senator William E. Borah, Republican of Idaho, in an interview for the Associated Negro Press Senator Borah, by being appointed chairman of the sub-committee of the judiciary committee of the Senate, having charge of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bell, assumes the most outstanding position in the onward march of "Law and Order" since the days of the "Missouri Compromise.'

There is no question in the minds of those who have discussed the appointment of Senator Borah as chairman of this committee that will lead the fight for the anti-lynching bill, that if the Senator believes in it, there will be action.

Continuing, Senator Borah said: "There are two things that I would have you tell the people of your race: First I wish to be satisfied that the law is Constitutional. I have sworn to uphold the constitution of the United States; therefore, I cannot ask to have a law passed that I know is unconstitutional. If the law, as drawn, is constitutional, I am for it. I will go even further, if there should develop in my mind a reasonable doubt as to the constitutionality, I will then support it and let the courts decide.

"Second, in the matter of hearing, I think for the most part, they should be directed to the constitutional phase of the subject. The hearings should not be long drawn out, I do not think that necessary; they should be brief and to the point.

"The best informed persons should be agreed upon for spokesmen, and besides oral statements, better still briefs, should be prepared for presentation to the committee."

Asked when a date would be set for the hearings, Senator Borah replied that he could not set a date yet, but would do so at the earliest opportunity. He spoke of his interest in the pending treaties, and other measures that are before the Senate, and declared that ample announcement for the time of the hearing would be given.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL CERTAIN

One of the most [illegible] acknowledgements of the necessity for the passage of Federal legislation to suppress mob violence and lynching was made by the *Morning News*, a white daily paper, published at Paris, Texas. Paris is the city which earned unenviable notoriety by the burning alive of two Negroes within the past few years. It therefore has an intimate firsthand knowledge of the atrocities perpetrated by the working of the mob spirit and the difficulties encountered in subduing it. The views of the *News* are therefore entitled to thoughtful consideration. We reproduce the article in its entirety, as follows

It appears to be a certainty that the Dyer bill, to carry all cases of lynching into the Federal courts, will pass the House, but will be blocked in the Senate. That is, it will be blocked this time—but unless there is a change for the better it is going through the Senate finally.

Mr. Summers of Texas opposes the bill upon the ground that it is an infringement of State's rights; and in that he is correct.

The great trouble with that view is that there is no such thing as "rights" left the States, in the view in which Mr. Summers contends. They have long since departed; and the Democratic party is as much responsible as is the Republican party.

The States are becoming mere provinces in many respects and the trend is constant toward a centralization into a more confirmed form of bureaucratic government.

The States—including Texas—have not put down mob law; and while they have statutes of various sorts designed to punish those guilty of it these statutes are not enforced.

Most citizens condemn mob law in a perfunctory manner; but they fear to get out in the open and insist upon punishment for those who are guilty though they are well known.

Many citizens fear to be put in the position of condemning mob law because the men responsible always seek to make it appear that those condemning the mob are excusing the crimes though they know it is not so, and that it is the murder of the accused which is protested.

Most of us fear to appear as condemnatory of the members of the mob because we may offend someone—and the person who was lynched is dead anyway.

But the Dyer Bill is an absolute certainty within a few years even though it fails now.

The admissions of the *News* as to the inevitable enactment of the proposed legislation have been substantiated by the passage of the anti-lynching bill by the House of Representatives. Its previsions as to its eventual passage by the Senate seem to be equally well founded. In the face of this situation so clearly outlined the opposition of the Southern Congressmen is made to appear as pure buncomb.

Those seventeen Republican Representatives who joined hands with the unreconstructed Democrats in seeking to perpetuate the reign of the mob are left with no valid excuse for their action. If they had witnessed the burning alive of human beings that took place in the city of Paris within recent years they might share the convictions of this Texas editor as to the inevitable necessity of anti-lynching legislation.

The Folly of the Dyer Bill.

The most enlightened of the Washington correspondents seem agreed on the fact that the so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill has struck a snag in the Senate regardless of the fact that it passed the House by an almost two to one vote. Some of them say it may never be reported from committee and that even if it should be reported favorably it will be made the object of a hostile and determined filibuster by the senators opposed to it. It is hardly likely, therefore, that supporters of the measure will consent to leaving all other legislation tied up merely to secure this one measure.

It is not alone congressmen from the southern states who are opposed to the bill. The opposition comes from northern, eastern and western sections of the country and some of these opponents are most determined in their course. These men believe the folly of coercive measures as demonstrated by their failure when applied to the south during the dark days of reconstruction following the Civil War. It is realized that only time, tolerance and continued peaceful relations can solve the race issue and that any attempt to settle it by mandatory or proscriptive legislation will make matters worse than better.

There is one piece of folly in the Dyer bill that is menacing and dangerous. It is that feature of it which prescribed a fine of $10,000 upon the county where a lynching occurs or through which the intended victim of a mob is carried. Mark Sullivan, in the New York Evening Post, asks very pertinently how this fine is to be collected. Will the federal government proceed to seize the revenues and funds of the offending county and if so will not a condition be created that would be menacing to the integrity of the government? Or as an alternative, the national government might seize some monument or some piece of county property, but if it did who is there who would purchase it or to whom could a clear title be given? Were lynchings on the increase and the integrity of the law actually threatened this fine feature of the Dyer bill would be an immensely more dangerous threat against our free institutions.

And this menace to orderly government has been suggested not so much to safeguard the negro in the south as to safeguard the negro vote in some of the doubtful states of the north and west. All statistics show that crimes of mob violence are on the decrease due to an aroused public sentiment against them. If this sentiment be allowed to operate unmolested it will eventually solve the problem. But if the Dyer bill should be passed it would merely revive hatred and be productive of additional mob violence. The ignorant and criminal negro would construe such a law to be a protection of himself in the commission of the crimes that result in lynching and there would be an increase in such crimes with a consequent increase in lynchings.

It is to be hoped that the Senate will kill this iniquitous measure and thus save the country from a situation that would be filled with perils.

WHEELING W. V. INTEL'GEN'R
JANUARY 27, 1922

AN UNFORTUNATE DEBATE

In view of the fact that practical results are improbable, it is unfortunate that the proposed federal anti-lynching bill was ever brought up in congress. How the federal government can assume authority in lynching cases is not clear. A constitutional amendment could take away the authority of the states and turn it over to Washington but a right vested in the states by the constitution cannot be transferred by a mere act of congress.

The constitution vests in the separate states the right to deal with crime within their borders, with the exception of offenses of a purely federal nature. Lynching is not federal in its nature. It is simply murder by a large number of individuals instead of by one person. To take the punishment of murder out of the hands of the states by an act of congress, without first submitting a constitutional amendment to the people would be impossible, and the courts will probably hold that the same applies to lynch murder, if the bill should pass.

It is unfortunate, under these circumstances, that an opportunity was afforded for the expression of vicious racial antagonism on the floor of congress. The sentiments of certain Southern congressmen are well known, and they should not be given such perfect opportunities to blazon forth things that are better left unsaid. In the debate, an open attempt was made to link the race problems of the South and the Pacific coast, the Southern members appealing for the support of those from the Far West. We cannot wholly escape race disputes, but anything that needlessly brings them out in the worst form on the floor of congress should be avoided.

ROCHESTER N Y POST EXPRESS
FEBRUARY 7, 1922

Lynching.

Lynching is a blot on American civilization. Therefore, the passing of the Anti-Lynch bill by the House of Representatives in Washington should command the approval of the humane regardless of party considerations.

One provision in the bill imposing a fine of $10,000 on counties in which there may be a lynching was unsuccessfully opposed by Representative French, a republican member of the House. There is something to be said for the view that a county composed of citizens wholly innocent of a lynching committed between night and morning should not be penalized But, in a sense, every member of a community is responsible for the toleration of an infamous practice.

The fact that the bill was piloted by Representative Volstead of the judiciary committee may make it unpopular in some quarters. However, it is time that the American people should put down mob law, of which lynching is a horrible example. Many negroes in the South have been lynched on mere suspicion, and even those who were guilty should receive a trial by a judge and jury. The late Booker Washington interested himself in the statistics of Southern lynchings, and found that in the course of several years the practice had been very little reduced. The bill provides in substance that any state failing to protect the life of any person against a mob shall be "deemed to have denied to such person the usual protection of the laws of the state; that it is to be a felony for any state or municipal officer to make no reasonable effort to prevent a lynching; that an officer conspiring with a mob to lynch a prisoner is to be liable to imprisonment for life or not less than five years, and that a county where a lynching takes place shall forfeit $10,000 recoverable in an action by the United States for the benefit of the family of the person lynched."

It has been suggested that the bill will never become a law. Even if this be so, in the case of the present bill, lynching as a practice is doomed, and when the villainous custom has ceased, the stain on our civilization will be removed.

N Y WORLD
JANUARY 28, 1922

A WORTHLESS ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

In passing the Anti-Lynching Bill the House was acting primarily from political motives. Some few members who supported it may possibly think that it will serve as an effective curb on mob murder. If so, they are exceptionally gullible. The measure would be vitiated, if by nothing else, by the partisan purposes of its promoters. They planned to fool the Negro into believing that the Republican Party is doing something for his benefit and the special protection of his race. In order to accomplish their ends they called on Congress to exceed its powers.

The Dyer bill on its face is unconstitutional. Unless the United States Supreme Court amends the Constitution it will declare the law invalid, if the Senate approves the House's course. The House was fully warned that it was headed in the wrong direction. Advocates of the measure even argued that its opponents, if really convinced that the bill was unconstitutional, had no reason for voting against it, since it would then fail anyhow.

Even though the Anti-Lynching Bill passes and becomes law with the President's approval, it will prove unworkable in practice. In its enforcement responsibility must rest on local juries, and it is notorious how little assistance may be expected from them in communities where lynching is countenanced and condoned.

In the State, city or county district where public sentiment refuses relentlessly to condemn mob rule as an unpardonable offense against the law or to uphold the local authorities in the pursuit and punishment of all offenders alike, Federal laws against lynching will be futile. There is no State in the Union that has not adequate legislation for dealing with lynchers if the law were generally held in respect in the communities in which it must be enforced, whether the authority is State or Federal.

Lynchings — 1922. Legislation.

National (Dyer Bill).

1072

DYER RESOLVE PASSES BOTH BRANCHES OF MASS. LEGISLATURE

Boston Mass. Guardian 5/6/22

ORIGINAL DRAFT RESUBSTITUTED FOR A CENTRAL RESOLUTION—WINS OVER FIGHTS IN HOUSE AND SENATE—PASSES BY BIG MAJORITIES—SOUTH LOBBIED AGAINST IT—REP. MEYERS STAYED ON JOB—SEN. NAPHEN MADE GREAT FIGHT.

BACKS BILL TO END LYNCHING—STATE SENATE URGES U. S. SENATE TO PASS MEASURE

(Boston Post, May 4, 1922)

The State Senate, following the example set by the House of Representativs on Monday, yesterday by an overwhelming vote passed a resolution urging the United States Senate to pass a bill making mob murder and lynching a crime against the federal government.

The resolution calls for the speedy enactment of the Dyer bill now before Congress and reads in part as follows: "The General Court of Massachusetts respectfully urges upon the United State Senate and its judicniary committee the speedy enactment of the Dyer ani-lynching bill, so-caalled, already passed by he House of Representatives by an overwhelming majority, and designed to end lynching by making mob murder a crime against the federal government."

The National Equal Rights League and others petitioned the State Legislaure to urge the United Sates Senae to pass this bill. On Monday the House of Representatives of this State passed the resolutions and yeterday the State Senate also passed them.

The Boston branch of the League is now getting signatures to a petition to be presented to Senator Lodge, asking him as Republican leader to call a party caucus and through it to urge that the Dyer bill he reported out of committee and acted upon before Congress adjourns.

HON. WILLIAM J. NAPHEN

Who Repelled the Foe In a Wonderful Argument for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Resolve in the Massachusetts Senate.

MASS. HOUSE ASKS PASAGE OF ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

A resolution asking the United States Senate to paass the Dyer anti-lynching bill was adopted by the House Monday, although Represeentative Hamburger of Boston protested against such action, holding that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional and unfair to innocent citizens of communities where lynchings occur.

(Boston Herald, May 5, 1922)

organization has mapped out a pro-

There was an echo of Wednesday's (Boston Herald, Friday, May 5, 1922) debate on lynching in the Senate yestreday, when Senator Wadleigh of Merrimack, sought to overturn the favorabel majority given the resolutions in favor of the Dyer Anti-lynching bil. The senator read a section of the Dyer bill, now before the United States Senate, which imposes a fine of $10,000 on a county, city or town where a lynching takes place, and said that under such a provision innocent people would suffer for the acts of a few. The Senate, however, refused to reconsider its action.

LEAGUE THANK LODGE FOR STARTING BILL

MASS MEETING HEAR REPORT ON DELEGATE TROTTER ON HOW LODGE GOT DYER BILL OUT OF COMMITTEE IN A FEW DAYS—COMMEND LODGE FOR HIS ACT—APPOINT COMMITTEE ON HARVARD COLOR LINE—REV. DOUGLAS HEADS CITIZENS' COMMITTEE—LODGE HAD RECEIVED TELEGRAM FROM BORAH.

Guardian

The anti-lynching mass meeting in the 12th Baptist Church on Tuesday night was strong and enthusiastic. A citizens' committee was appointed to dieln the arrangements for the 15th annual meeting of the National Equal Rights League here, in Boston, July 4 to 8. Rev. C. B. Douglass of Cambridge was elected chairman. Miss Penolia Foster the secretary. Mr. Monroe Mason was elected chairman of subcommittee on historical tours, Mrs. M. E. Gibson, with Mrs. Gertrude Smith as vice, on registration; Mrs. Lillian Lewis Feintado on hospitality, Rev. W. D. McClane on church support, Mrs. M. Cravath Simpson on housing, Mrs. Martha Kensmil on Entertainments, with Mrs. France and Mrs. Lillian Conover as secretaries.

The committee voted to have another meeting next Tuesday night, at the early hour of 7.30, to be brief, so as not to interfere with other engagements.

Morris Presides

President E. T. Morris of the local branch read a strong editorial of the Boston Herald, calling for passage of the Dyer Bill, and made a ringing appeal.

Trotter's Report.

Secretary Trotter first moved a resolution to appoint a committee on the color line in the Freshman Doritories at Harvard College. He then told in detail of presenting the petitions to Senator Lodge and how the latter got Senator Borah started, also how the League kept after Lodge when Borah made his adverse report.

Borah's Telegram.

The audience voted to commend Senator Lodge. Mr. Trotter said he had asked the Senator, now in Boston, to ascertain the latest, and Senator Lodge had received the following telegram that day:

> The Judiciary Committee has a special meeting Thursday to take up the Dyer Bill. I feel very certain that a Bill will be worked out without delay. The Committee is working in sincere earnestness to secure a constitutional and effective measure. There is no intention on the part of the Committee to abandon the bill or to unnecessarily delay it.
>
> W. E. BORAH.

There was excellent music by Miss Florence Shelton, soprano; Miss Gladys Butts, pianist, and especially by the talented Mrs. Helen Worthan Haliday, favorite soprano. Many donated for the expenses of the League work and paid annual dues.

The public are especially urged to attend meeting of the Citizens' Committee early Tuesday night in the vestry at 7.30 P. M.

ROCHESTER N Y HERALD
MAY 20, 1922

WAR ON SENATORS IF ANTI-LYNCHING

BILL IS DEFEATED

Washington. May 19.—The anti-lynching bill will be unfavorably reported by the Senate judiciary committee next week, members of the committee said today. A canvass of the committee, it was stated, has shown that a majority of the members conclude the legislation is being advocated for political purposes.

This statement came today almost simultaneously with reports that the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People is planning to fight for the defeat of every Republican Senator coming up this year unless the anti-lynching legislation is passed. The House has passed the Dyer bill, which, with a similar measure by Senator McCormick, is pending in the judiciary committee.

The negroes, it is stated, will charge the Republicans with responsibility for failure of the legislation because they control the Senate.

N Y C WORLD
JUNE 12, 1922

LYNCHING MUST STOP,' NEGRO PARADE SLOGAN

(Special to The World.)

WASHINGTON, June 11.—Marching under the slogan "Lynching Must Stop," thousands of Negroes will parade silently through the streets of the capital Wednesday in the interest of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.

President Harding himself has been asked to review the "silent parade," but he has not indicated whether he will do so.

The demonstration, described as an "appeal to the conscience of the civilized world," will be preceded Tuesday night by a Negro mass meeting, in which many Negro associations will take part.

LANCASTER PA NEW ERA
MAY 30, 1922

A BLOODY RECORD.

Mobs in the South are furnishing the friends of the Dyer anti-lynching bill with the best possible arguments for its speedy passage. During the month of May thirteen negroes were taken from the authorities and killed. Five of them were tortured to death in flames, and the bodies of two others were burned after death.

The Dyer bill provides a penalty of from five years to life for any member of a mob that puts to death any guilty or innocent person. It also provides for five years in prison or $5,000 fine, or both, for any State or municipal officer who neglects to protect a prisoner from mob violence.

and a forfeit of ,000 by any county in which a person is lynched, the money to be given to the victim's family or dependents, or in lieu of them paid into the United States Treasury. This bill has already passed the House, but it is being held up in a Senate sub-committee. Senator Borah, chairman of the sub-committee, declares it will be useless to pass the bill, contending that it is certain to be declared unconstitutional.

SAVANNAH GA NEWS
JUNE 1, 1922

Lodge and Lynching.

Baltimore Sun: Senator Lodge's fences in Massachusetts being evidently more than a little "Wabbly," he begins to look around for some large-sized issues with which to nail them up. Seeing nothing else handy he is, according to a Washington dispatch to the New York World, seeking to make capital in Massachusetts by starting a campaign of prejudice against the South. The House of Representatives passed a preposterous anti-lynching bill, which the Senate has pigeonholed because it was as unconstitutional as it was unwise. But there are quite a number of colored voters in Massachusetts whose support Mr. Lodge is anxious to retain, and so he is urging the judiciary committee of the Senate to devise an anti-lynching measure likely to be sustained by the Supreme Court.

The renewal of this proposal is generally regarded in Washington simply as a political expedient. It is designed purely as a colored vote-catcher, as a means of holding the negro vote in line next fall. Mr. Lodge's belated activity in the matter will probably do him very little good in Massachusetts or anywhere else. It will recall to Southern recollection his attitude on the force bill of a former generation, and we doubt whether it appeals to the Massachusetts of the present day. Mr. Lodge will fail to divert attention from himself by calling for a new federal invasion of the South. Lynching is barbaric and horrible and it ought to be suppressed, but to make a sectional issue of it is the way to substitute a greater for a lesser evil.

But apart from all this, with what grace can Senator Lodge come before the country as the opponent of lynching when he led the Senate mob that lynched the league of nations treaty? That was the greatest lynching bee in history. He helped to burn the poor treaty at the stake, with a very slow fire, to the accompaniment of many savage dances and warwhoops. The victim may or may not have deserved it, but the champion lyncher of the age, who murdered the hope of the world, is not precisely the person to fill the role of a crusader for humanity.

TEXAS COMPLACENCY.

The last three weeks have brought forth different comments from the various sections of the country on the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. These comments followed the terrible record of lynchings which took place during the last three weeks in May. Most of the northern papers were horrified at the wave of savagery which swept over Texas and one or two other states. Some of the southern papers expressed similar sentiments.

It was left for a newspaper in Texas—Texas, the comparison of whose disadvantages with hell has become a proverb—to treat the whole matter with complacency which is incomprehensible. It was in Texas that most of these horrible lynchings took place, many of them by burnings at the stake, and it is Texas that ought to be most ashamed about the lynching evil, and yet the Wichita (Texas) "Eagle" recently had the following to say editorially:

> "Texas has gone amuck but there is no cause for alarm. The good old Lone Star will come to itself after a few more burnings at the stake, and the customary quietness of mid-summer will return. Just at this time of the year the fires in the city squares always burn a little brighter in Texas and the surburban trees with overhanging limbs always have unpleasant duties to perform. Within the next month the number of crimes punishable by burnings and hangings will decrease, and Texas will devote itself to business as usual. The present excitement is temporary and seasonal."

This may not be intended as complacency, it may pass for levity and wit in the editorial room of the "Eagle." But a newspaper that can make the sufferings of humanity the subject for levity and the community which can accept it reveal underneath the veneer of civilization a degeneracy which is reaching the rotting point.

Anti-Lynching Crusade Launched in Delaware

Wilmington Advocate

National Organization Headed by Mrs. Mary B. Talbert—Thirty Towns in State Organized Against Lynching—Mrs. Dunbar-Nelson, State Director: Mrs. Gertrude Rose, Director for Wilmington

Wilmington Del.

9-2-22

The State of Delaware is aroused as never before against the evils of lynching, and the necessity of the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, which Congressman Layton voted against during the present session of Congress. All over the State the colored men and women, particularly the latter, are working hard to impress upon the members of the race the gravity of the situation and the necessity for concerted action.

At the recent conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People held in Newark, New Jersey, Congressman Dyer, the author of the Dyer bill, said that if one million people got together and decided lynching would go, it would go.

At once sixteen women from five States formed themselves into an Executive Committee of Anti-Lynching Crusaders, and decided to put on an intensive campaign for the purpose of uniting one million women of the race to end lynching and mob violence. This committee went into permanent organization on July 8. By unanimous vote, Mrs. Mary B. Talbert, of Buffalo, New York, whose work in reclaiming Frederick Douglass Home was so effective, was elected National Director of the campaign.

Mrs. Talbert appointed State Directors at once, specializing in the sixteen States in which there are Congressional and Senatorial elections. She appointed Mrs. Alice Dunbar-Nelson, Director for the State of Delaware.

It might be said that there is no danger of this blight touching our own State, but experience shows that we never can tell just when mob violence will break out. Lynching is not confined to the States in the South, and we have already had one awful experience. Hence it is necessary to organize the men and women of the race in Delaware, and through them to help stamp out the lynching evil, and make it impossible for mob violence to touch our State. This is one of the biggest and swiftest campaigns ever inaugurated among our people, and has literally swept the country like wild-fire. In Delaware, the women have fallen in line with almost military swiftness and precision.

Thirty towns are already under process of organization, with a woman director, aides and lieutenants. Meetings are being held, beginning this week. Mrs. Nelson has planned a tour of the State, her itinerary taking in the entire State from Claymont to Rehoboth, where she will speak, explaining the meaning of the campaign, the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, and the necessity for concerted action on the part of the women and men of the race against the evil.

In the city of Wilmington, Mrs. E. Gertrude Rose, who is acting President of the State Federation of Colored Women, is acting director of the movement. Mrs. Rose will work in conjunction with the local branch of the N. A. A. C. P., to have meetings and organizations in every church and section of the city. She has a committee of twenty-five women who are among the livest wires in the city.

Everything points to an enthusiastic interest in one of the greatest movements the country has ever known.

Lynchings—1922
Legislation

National (Dyer Bill)

1073

SOUTHERNERS ATTACK RACE IN BATTLE AGAINST DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Washington D.C. Times
1/14/22

The Dyer Anti-Lynching bill was again taken up for discussion on the floor of the House Wednesday afternoon after several attempts by Representative Garrett of Tennessee to filibuster against it. After the bill was taken up, the Democrats showed that they were well prepared with fixed speeches to fight the bill to the last ditch and force the Republicans to go the limit if they are to pass the bill.

Representative Madden of Illinois, was the first speaker. He comes from the first district, which includes most of the first and second wards of Chicago. These wards are nearly 90 per cent Colored and the Colored people hold the balance of power in the Congressional district. Representative Madden urged the pasasge of the bill saying that he believed in law and order and thought that America should guarantee life, liberty and freedom to all its citizens.

He further said that: "We boast of the freedom we have extended to subject races in other lands, and yet we forget the humility that is imposed on 12,000,000 people in our own land. We do not hesitate to say that we are willing to divide the police power of the state with the nation to enforce prohibition, but we hesitate, or many do, to divide the police power of the state with the nation to preserve human life." Representative Madden further said in part: "I am not in favor of permitting anywhere in this land the organization of any number, no matter how powerful they may be, America is entitled to a trial. He is Every man who commits a crime in American is entitled to a trial. He is entitled to the protection of the law."

Following Representative Madden was Representative Tillman of Arkansas. Mr. Tillman in true Southern form, arose amid the plaudits of his Democratic colleagues. After the usual formality of saying that he disapproved of lynching, he plunged into a fierce attack on the Negro race and the Republican party.

Representative Tillman, like most whites, tried to show that the race is made up mostly of rapists going about like wild animals preying upon women and girls. In substantiation of this theory, he read a clipping from the Washington Post regarding the alleged attack of Thomas Minor of 2002 Eleventh St., N. W., upon a white woman in an apartment house at 1107 Eleventh St., N. W. He related the story as the Post had it. However, he failed to tell the House members that this same man Thomas Minor, was the next day released after being acquitted of the charge and that it was later found that a white army officer was the would-be rapist in the case.

From this point on, the Southern representative quoted case after case that he had gathered from white newspapers and tried to build his story up on the purity of the white race. In one of his rape charges, he claimed that the man was drunk on cheap gin manufactured in Representative Dyer's district.

Representative Tillman charged the Republican party with playing unfair with the Negro and said they never will play fair. He stated that when the test comes as to who his real friends are, the Southern people will prove out. Looking over to the Republican side of the House, he said: "Your trouble is you play fast and loose; you blow hot and cold with your colored brother, and he has about found you out." He charged that while speaking in the last election campaign in Virginia, Anderson, the Lily-white Republican candidate for governnor, said: "The idea of a Negro being elected governor of Virginia is nonsense. If he should be elected, there are trees in the Capitol Square." "This, said Tillman, is a threat that if the Negro were elected he would be lynched."

Representative Tillman in referring to Representative Tinkham of Mass., said: "He (Rep. Tinkham) is always present when we discuss black men or red liquor." Tillman used several poems extolling the virtue of white women.

In speaking of how radicals have governed countries, he referred to the Negro race as follows: "Clothe the illiterate, lewd, vicious, criminal black man with a little authority, brief or otherwise, and he will make a mess of things also. A race of tip takers can not become a race of rulers." The House applauded this statement. He charged that if the Anti-Lynching bill was passed, it would break up the Union and would change the flag.

Representative Goodykontz of West Virginia, spoke on the Constitutionality of the bill. He said he firmly be- that the guaranties for the protection of the citizen are clearly defined in the organic law and particularly in the articles that appertain to life, liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness. He further said: "Let us pass the bill and thereby arm the Department of Justice with a weapon that can be used to vindicate the rights of all citizens, irrespective of their color, race, or condition, within the protecting aegis of the Federal Constitution."

Among other Representatives who spoke against the bill was Hersey of Maine. Little of Kansas and Taylor of Tennessee spoke in favor of it. The bill will soon come up for a vote, but it is gravely doubted if it will pass. Veteran watchers of congressional procedure point out that the bill is merely a political move. The whole house comes up for election and many of the Northern representatives are from districts where the Negro holds the balance of power and know that they must purport to do something for the race in order to appeal to the voters.

GEORGIANS ATTACK ANTI-LYNCH BILL IN RINGING TERMS

Atlanta Ga. Constitution

Congressmen Unshaw and Wright Make Brilliant Speeches Against Proposed Dyer Measure.

1/22/22

DEMOCRATS DETERMINE TO FIGHT TO FINISH

Upshaw Says Remedy of Lynching Is in Removal of Cause—Judge Wright Applauded.

Constitution Bureau
Raleigh Hotel,

Washington, January 21.—(By Constitution Leased Wire.)—Following his vigorous defense of Georgia in the debate last Wednesday on the proposed anti-lynching bill, already carried in The Constitution, Congressman W. D. Upshaw, of Atlanta, today in congress made a ringing defense of "a brave and chivalric people, who are wrestling with complex problems and great provocation utterly misunderstood by the people of other sections."

A splendid contribution to Georgia's side in the debate was also made today in the house by Congressman W. C. Wright, of Newnan. It is the general comment that Mr. Wright's argument from the standpoint of the inconstitutionality of the bill and likewise the unfairness and absurdity of its provisions, is one of the strongest yet heard in this memorable debate. The Newnan congressman's eloquent peroration on Georgia created enthusiastic applause on both sides of the house, and he was warmly congratulated at the conclusion of his speech.

To Fight to Finish.

Democratic members of the house at a caucus tonight agreed to wage a fight to the finish on the Dyer bill. A resolution was unanimously adopted assailing the measure as "violative of the constitution" and one that would have a tendency of increasing lynching rather than of reducing the crime.

Those who addressed the caucus, members reported, without exception attacked the bill and urged the democrats to stand solidly in opposition to it.

The resolution adopted follows:

"Be it resolved by the democrats of the house of representatives, in caucus assembeld, that we are opposed to lynching and declare our opposition to H. R. 13, the so-called anti-lynching bill as being violative of the constitution and destructive of our dual form of government and would not tend to reduce the crime of lynching but in our judgment would have a contrary effect.

"And be it further resolved, that we appreciate and approve the course of our leader, Mr. Garrett, and the democratic members of the judiciary committee in their opposition to said bill and pledge to them our united support in its further consideration."

Upshaw's Speech.

Congressman Upshaw spoke in part as follows:

"I am more opposed to lynching than the proponents of this bill—I oppose lynching a human being and I also oppose lynching the constitution of the United States. Lynching is a horrible crime. It is barbarous in spirit and merciless in execution. Declaring itself a portest against the impotence of law, it endangers a reckless and insidious spirit that ultimately tramples all law and endangers the security of society.

"Because of these facts—facts too patent to admit of discussion, it is the duty of every patriotic citizen to stand aggressively against every phase and form of mob violence. Personally, I have tried to live up to the spirit of my own teaching. Tyenty-five years of platform utterance and fifteen years of editorial expression will reveal my uncringing attitude against the perpetrators of mob violence as lawless murderers and enemies of community peace and safety. I have pursued this course, allow me to say, in the face of hostile threats and frequent citicisms—for there is no state or section that has not its lawless element.

"But, Mr. Speaker and gentlemen, I rejoice to declare that, for the most part, the rank and file of the people stood with the leaders of thought and action in my own section for the majesty of the law. Editors have denounced lynching, the pulpit has cried out against it, officers have bravely fought it, while publicists and patriots everywhere have honestly tried to build up that wholesome respect for all law that will make lynching impossible.

"In the face of these outstanding facts, and in face of the constitution provision that police powers are reserved to the states, I must express my surprise and disappointment that this bill which proposes to stop lawlessness, invades the sanctity of constitutional law, and actually offers the preposterous proposition to penalize thousands of innocent people because of the crimes of the guilty few. Never before in the history of federal legal procedure have I heard of such lawless application of law. This is a 'carpetbag' bill.

Innocent Suffer for Guilty.

"Not only the country in which the mob-crime is committed is held guilty before this sweeping federal statute, but—worse than all, the innocent people of the innocent counties through which a mob may elect to carry a criminal to the scene of his crime for execution—yea, though the journey be made in the dark hours of the night while the law-abiding inhabitants are peacefully sleeping—those counties, too, are adjudged guilty in the eyes of the nation and of the world. Why, gentlemen, it would be just as sensible and just as just to penalize every innocent citizen in America because this crime is committed on American soil.

"Not only does this proposition trample every principle of elemental justice to the individual citi-

zen, levying a penalty on thousands for a crime of which they are not only innocent, but which they absolutely deprecate, but this law clearly tramples the constitution of the United States, in that it would deprive the penalized counties of the due process of law guaranteed by the federal constitution. It would penalize the county without the requirement of any proof with conduct or neglect on the part of the county officials charged with the duty of the administering of the laws, and would afford no redress whatever for any county even though its own citizens did not in any sense participate in the lynching. Thus, without allowing the indicted county its day in court, its money would be taken and its people disgraced. This constitutes the equity and ethics involved; but I remind you that while a state can make such a law concerning a county because the county is a part of itself in governmental action, without a change in our federal constitution, the national government has no authority to coerce a county.

Denies Parallel.

"If it be answered as it was in the preliminary debate that the federal government now invades the state to enforce the prohibition law, I remind you that the national government did not extend its strong arm into the state or county for the enforcement of this law, until after the liquor traffic was outlawed by the federal constitution through due governmental process.

"The debate thus far has revealed already several admissions even from its friends that this proposed law against lynchig may not stand the constitutional test.

"Liquor is a commodity—a devilish sort of commodity, which, as an article of commerce, became a national evil. And that national evil required a national remedy.

"But lynching is not a 'commodity'—it is a local crime which can only be cured by a wholesome, individual conscience and a cumulative expression of that conscience.

A Fruitless Remedy.

"The sole excuse for urging such a law is an effort to deter from lynching. At present there is a law on the statute books of every state in the union defining the crime of murder, and every man who participates in a lynching does so well knowing that he is committing murder, and subjecting himself to the extreme penalty of the law. If this fear does not prevent lynching, would the knowledge that his county would be mulcted for damages restrain a man who would be willing to expose himself to the extreme penalty of the law? Certainly the fear of infinitesimal taxation will not deter a murder-mad man when the fear of the gallows fails.

"Every anxious patriot, every defender of the law, every friend of humanity is asking, 'What shall be done to curb this mighty evil?' I have the answer: **'Stop the crime which produces it!'** And, for God's sake, stop the maudlin sentiment that weeps for the lyncher's victim and forgets the poor victim of the rapist and murderer lying yonder in an untimely grave, or living, bleeding, dying amid lacerated hearts in a home shadowed with a sorrow worse than death. Let the honest friends of this unwise measure send wise evangels of purity and purpose among the classes that furnish the criminal victims of the lawless lyncher's wrath, and tell them to stop their hellish crimes or they will be promptly sent to hell. We of the suffering south will gladly join every humanitarian friend of law and order from Omaha, from Chicago, from East St. Louis and—God knows—right here in the nation's capital, and help them plant in human hearts, both white and black, the foundation principles of that regenerating Christian truth—yes, and that wholesome fear, that will make them respect the laws of God and man. Do this, instead of encouraging that fatal folly of the New York and Boston 'Equal Rights Leagues,' that are preaching a doctrine as impossible in Boston as it is in Atlanta, and as unthinkable in New York and St. Louis as it is in Anglo-Saxon America everywhere.

South Fighting Upward.

"We are fighting upward in the loyal south, wrestling with problems a hundredfold more difficult than you honest men of other sections can possibly understand. **Let us alone**—save only to give us that comradely hand of sensible sympathy and understanding fellowship which are due a noble and chivalric people of proven loyalty and consecrated purpose. What shall be done? Create the sentiment that will cause every state to pass such a law as Alabama has—a law impeaching the sheriff and other county officials that do not do their duty. Pass also a state law that requires mounted machine guns in every jail, and automatically dismissing the sheriff who does not use them on the crowd bent on murdering a man without law. Do this—do anything that will protect the prisoner and preserve the majesty of the law; but don't wipe out our state laws and our county courts and rape the federal constitution in this frenzied effort to correct a giant evil.

"And, in the name of all that is sane and practical, don't put the ten thousand dollars forfeit in the hands of the criminal's family, who are often themselves a hotbed of criminals. They, and their companions in crime, would live yet more in idleness and crime, and some of the worst ones would be tempted to bring on another 'lynching bee' in order that another pampering bounty might come from the county treasury.

Strange Discrimination.

"And if you are determined to outrage the white virtues of the federal constitution and penalize the innocent for the sins of the guilty and encourage more crime by causing the rapist and the murderer to feel that 'Uncle Sam' is, somehow, taking his part, then go a step further and give another beautiful ten thousand dollars to the family of the victim of the barbarous fiend. To give sympathy to the family of the human devil who is lynched and give neither loyal sympathy nor money to the family of the first and greater sorrow would brand every man who votes for this strangely horrible discrimination as guilty of barbarous sympathies and legal and moral blindness.

"God knows I am bitterly opposed to lynching—the masses of my people are opposed to lynching, and are doing their best to prevent it—but, in the name of law and justice, let us not lynch the constitution of the United States and encourage further crime by such an unjust and fruitless remedy."

Judge Wright's Speech.

Judge Wright spoke, in part, as follows:

"The safety and perpetuity of the government of this republic and of each state of the union depend upon the maintenance and enforcement of the laws and the protection of the citizen in the enjoyment of his constitutional and inalienable and inherent right of life, liberty and property and without the protection of these rights confusion and anarchy would inevitably result.

"I do not palliate or condone the violation of the law and condemn lynching and mob law in any form. One of its dangers is there is no limit to its jurisdiction. But, I am equally opposed to a violation of the constitution under a guise of the enactment of a law which, if enacted and enforced, would be clearly subversive of the plain terms of the constitution and destructive of our system of government and the constitution and principles upon which it was founded.

"The Ayer anti-lynching bill is not only pernicious and unjust, but is clearly violative of the plain terms and provisions of the constitution and contrary to the genius and spirit of our institutions and time-honored traditions.

Obliterates Rights.

"It not only encroaches upon, but obliterates the rights of the sovereign states and seeks to substitute federal for state laws and transfers from the state to the federal courts a class of offenders for the trial and punishment of whom ample provisions has already been made by the laws of the several states."

Mr. Wright then launched a most vigorous attack upon the constitutionality of the bill and its absurd and ridiculous terms. In a brief but clear manner he pointed out the sovereign right of the state, showed the county to be only a part of the state, created by the state itself for the purpose of facilitating its governmental functions, and that in order to enforce the provisions of the bill by suit against a county it would take from the state the sovereign power granted it under the constitution of the United States. He then pointed out the many defects of the bill and concluded as follows:

"Mr. Chairman, the general debate upon this bill for the most part has been characterized by dignity, and it has displayed a high order of research and scholarship. It is unfortunate, indeed, that some gentlemen during the debate upon the floor of this house have seen fit to single out Georgia, the Empire State of the South, and make her a target in the dicussion. These attacks are, or should be unworthy of the gentlemen who made them.

As Good as Best.

"Georgia doesn't claim to be superior to all of the other states, but she does claim to be as good as the best. The high stand which she has taken in the proud galaxy of states and in the sisterhood of states, has placed her where she needs no defense at my hands. She has made a rich contribution to the art, literature, professions, statesmanship and patriotism of this nation. I wish I had time to enumerate to you some of Georgia's achievements. For instance, do you gentlemen know that the first sewing machine which was ever made was invented and manufactured in the state of Georgia?

"Do you gentlemen realize that the first steamboat which ever plied across the Atlantic sailed from the port of Savannah, Ga.? Do you gentlemen realize that it is very well conceded that the first machine for the manufacture of ice was manufactured in the congressional district of Georgia which I have the honor to represent? Do you gentlemen realize that Georgia can justly boast of the first chartered female college in the whole world, which granted to woman a diploma? The cotton gin was invented in Georgia. Do you gentlemen realize that the people of this world are today indebted to a Georgian for the discovery of anesthesia, a thing that has brought so much relief to suffering humanity?"

Mr. Tilman: "Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield to me for a brief question and statement?"

Mr. Wright: "Yes."

Negro Property Owners.

Mr. Tilman: "Touching upon this question as to how Georgia treats her negro citizens, is it not stated in effect in the majority report accompanying the bill that the laws of Georgia and the people of Georgia are so fair in the treatment of her colored citizens that in that state negroes pay taxes on 1,664,368 acres and own property assessed at $47,723,499?"

Mr. Wright: "That is absolutely true. If I had time, I could show you in detail that the colored people of Georgia are properly treated by the white people. Of course now and then there will be a sporadic violation of law. The percentage of crime in Georgia is no more than in any other state of the union. If I were disposed to draw an invidious comparison, which I refrain from doing, I might say that Georgia and the enforcement of her laws, compared to some of the states from which some of these gentlemen who make these attacks come, is a literal paragon. Georgia needs no defense at my hands, and I say in conclusion that she is inhabited by as grand a people as have ever resisted the advance of tyranny or nourished the spirit of freedom. The achievements of her chivalric, noble and patriotic men and women will live in story and in song when her cowardly slanderers and maligners are forever forgotten."

THE COMMITTE ON LEGISLATIVE RELIEF DOING FINE WORK

Atlanta Ga Independent

(Associated Negro Press.)

Washington, D. C., Jan. 17.—It is a hopeful sign for the race to see practically all Negro leaders throughout the country actively engaged in pressing for the immediate enactment by Congress of an effective anti-lynching bill and for other much needed legislation that will safeguard the constitutional rights of Colored Americans.

1/19/23

Valuable work along this line has been, and is being done by the Committee on Legislative Relief, which, during the past year, has been maintaining race headquarters at 1216 Pennsylvania avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., and which, to a gratifying degree, has helped to favorably influence Senators, Congressmen and Republican leaders not only as regards the passage of a real anti-lynching bill "with teeth in it," but have been diligently urging the present administration to redeem campaign promises and pledges of the Republican party platform, as well as giving fitting recognition to competent and loyal Republicans, members of our racial group, by way of appointment to federal offices such as Register of the Treasury, Minister to Hayti, Recorder of Deeds in the District of Columbia and similar positions which, under previous Republican administrations, Colored men have filled with signal credit to themselves and to their race.

The Committee on Legislative Relief is still "on the job" at Washington, contending for the full protection of their race under the law and asking for an "open door" and a "square deal" in the distribution of federal patronage. In the unselfish fight they are making for the benefit of the entire race, this Committee, ably headed by Hon. Robert R. Church, of Memphis, deserve the active and unqualified support of the Negro Press and people throughout America.

Associated with Mr. Church in this work are the following: Hon. Henry Lincoln Johnson, of Atlanta, the only Negro member of the Republican National Committee; Hon. William C. Matthews, attorney at law, Boston, Mass.; Hon. Perry W. Howard, of Jackson, Miss., Special Assistant Attorney General of the United States; Dr. J. R. A. Crossland, Special Assistant in the Veterans Bureau; Dr. W. S. Scarborough, Assistant Economist in the Department of Agriculture; Editor Nahum D. Brascher and Melvin J. Chisum, of the Associated Negro Press; President J. Finley Wilson, of the National Negro Press Association; Editor Robert J. Nelson, of Wilmington, Del.; Editor Robert S. Abbott, of the Chicago Defender, and a number of other men throughout the country whose names are synonymous with "genuine" in racial uplift. The Dyer anti-lynching bill is now up before congress for discussion and will continue to hold first place on the house calendar until a vote thereon shall be obtained.

MAY VOTE TODAY ON DYER MEASURE

Atlanta Ga Constitution

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

Washington, January 25.—Debate in the house on the Dyer anti-lynching bill was concluded today and the measure was taken up under the five-minute rule, which affords members an opportunity to offer amendments. Republican leaders, announcing that the bill would be kept before the house until a final vote was reached, said they were confident it would be sent to the senate late tomorrow or Friday.

1/26/23

Roll calls during debate indicated that proponents of the measure were in a majority, but it was expected that a number of drastic amendments will be offered in an attempt to alter provisions calling for heavy penalties in the way of fines and imprisonment for persons participating in lynchings and for officials who, though negligence, fail to prevent them. The bill as it stands also provides that counties in which lynchings occur must forfeit $10,000 to the families of the victims

Lynchings — 1922. National (Dyer Bill)

Legislation 1080

VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

New York Age 7-22-22

SOME INCONSISTENCIES.

Two of the most powerful opponents of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill are Senator William E. Borah and the New York "World." Both Senator Borah and the "World" proclaim that they are against lynching and that they would be willing to do anything within their power to help abolish it; but they declare themselves against any step to abolish lynching which contemplates the exercise of Federal authority.' Both Senator Borah and the "World" profess such an exalted an opinion of the theory of "states rights" that they appear willing to see a continuance of the overthrow of the law by mobs, trial and execution of citizens without due process of law, and the exhibition of atrocities which could not be equalled in the jungle rather than see their sacred theory touched in the slightest degree. They are willing to face the certain menace of mob law and its spread rather than even contemplate the smaliest limitation upon the so-called rights of the states.

In taking this opposition the Honorable Senator and the influential newspaper lose sight of the fact that ever since the formation of the Union and the adoption of the Constitution these states have been constantly undergoing limitation of their rights as sovereign powers. This process is not only natural but necessary.

When the thirteen colonies were founded there were jealousy and suspicion among them all. They originally thought of themselves as separate and sovereign governments. That thought was largely due to the fact that they were physically separate. But the growth of the nation depended upon the weakening of that idea, and the physical bringing together of these states—so that today California is closer to New York than South Carolina was at the time of the adoption of the Constitution—has made state boundaries almost imaginary lines.

But what Senator Borah and the "World" seem most blind to is the fact that they are battling to preserve for the states a right which the states themselves during the past forty years have demonstrated themselves absolutely powerless to exercise. None of the states in which mob violence has been rampant has yet shown itself able to cope with the situation. The states are more or less able to cope with so-called individual crimes but they have shown themselves incapable of coping with the mob. It is, therefore, as absurd to talk about preserving to the states the right to deal with mobs as it would be to talk about the right of a fourteen-year-old king to rule and direct his country in time of war.

But after all it seems that these fine lines of constitutionality on states rights which Senator Borah and the "World" hold apply specifically to Federal laws against lynching. Senator Borah, who in the Senate Committee on the Judiciary fought against reporting the Anti-Lynching Bill favorably because he could not square his conscience with such an unconstitutional invasion of the rights of the states, is, nevertheless, quoted in the New York "World" as making a statement in favor of Federal control of the coal mining industry, and I am quite sure the "World" would not misquote Senator Borah.

Senator Borah has seen the war between the miners of West Virginia and the state forces and he has come to feel that the matter of supplying coal to the nation is so important that the Federal Government should step in and control a situation which the states seem unable to handle. The "World" quotes the Senator as saying: "I think the suggestion of the President with reference to resuming work pending a permanent settlement is extremely desirable. I do not believe anything short of drastic control by the government will bring anything like permanent relief."

We feel sure that upon second thought Senator Borah cannot believe that it is more important to make certain the securing of coal for the people of the country, even though Federal interference, than it is to secure for citizens the right to trial by due process of law when they are accused of crime through the same means.

Senator Borah's inconsistency is more than equaled by that on the part of the "World." The "World" has expressed itself editorially a half dozen times against the Anti-Lynching Bill on the ground that the Federal Government had no right to interfere with the states even to curb mob violence. But in viewing the consequences of recent mob action at Herrin, Ill., the "World" does not seem to be such a stickler for states rights.

In commenting upon the President's statement, "Governments cannot tolerate any class or group domination through force," the "World," in a lengthy editorial, had the following to say:

> That is true. Yet government has tolerated it. The Herrin murder has been noted in Congress. It has been condemned from the White House. But no constructive action is proposed to cleanse the stain which it would leave upon the Republic if nothing were done to vindicate law and visit justice upon the murderers.
>
> There is precedent in the Mafia riots in New Orleans and similar cases since for the statement that the Federal Department of Justice cannot override the power of a State in its administration of justice. But foreign nations whose citizens may have suffered in Herrin would have according to well-recognized rulings of our State Department a valid claim for satisfaction from Washington for the relatives of the injured and the dead. Such satisfaction would include both an expression of the Nation's regret and material compensation; but it would leave justice in an appalling crime lagging after apologies.
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> * * * * * * * *
>
> The only thing that cannot be tolerated is the comfortable theory that a mob murder of appalling cruelty, a defiant challenge to the Nation, is a thing to blow over and be forgotten.

So it seems clear that Senator Borah and the "World" think it would be a dangerous precedent to allow the Federal Government to put down lynching mobs of which Negroes are chiefly the victims, but they appear to have no such apprehensions regarding the use of Federal power to prevent riots growing out of labor troubles in which white men are chiefly the victims.

DAYTON O. JOURNAL
JULY 9, 1922

"PASSING THE BUCK"

"It is stated that some senators who voted for a favorable report of the Dyer antilynching bill from the judiciary committee doubt the constitutionality of the measure, but think "the bill should be enacted and put up to the supreme court." If the supreme court, in the exercise of the duty imposed upon it, confirms the doubt, there will be another hue and cry over the abuse of judicial authority and reiteration of radical demands for abrogating the power of the highest tribunal to set aside acts of congress," says the Washington Post.

"The supreme court has enough to do interpreting and construing acts passed upon in good faith without having to bear the burden and not infrequently the odium of pulling congressional chestnuts out of the fire. The courageous legislator is the one who votes his honest convictions in a case like this, even when he knows that his action may not be popular and even when he may sympathize with the object which a measure of doubtful constitutionality seeks to attain.

"Congress, some of whose leaders complain of criticism aimed at their body and its personnel, would be less vulnerable if it were mindful of its heritage. Imagine trusting a congress animated largely by expediency to the enactment of statutes unreviewable by the judicial branch of the government or which by a two-thirds vote would become the fundamental law! What might not such a lawmaking body do, practically unfettered by any constitutional restrictions whatever? Under any circumstances would the American people ever think seriously for a moment of surrendering their constitutional rights unreservedly to the whims of their senators and representatives in congress? The constitution belongs to the people, and it is for them to say when and how its provisions shall be enlarged or contracted."

N. Y. C. SUN
JULY 29, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL IS VALID

So Rules Senate Judiciary Committee.

SECTIONALISM IS DENIED

Report Says Bill Will Strengthen Protection for Citizens.

WASHINGTON, July 29.—An elaborate report declaring that the Dyer anti-lynching bill, as amended in the Senate Judiciary Committee, is constitutional, has been submitted on behalf of the committee by Senator Shortridge (Cal.).

"That conclusion is reached by different processes of reasoning," says the report, "and by reliance on different provisions of the Constitution; but, whatever process of reasoning is adopted or whatever provisions of the Constitution are relied on, we hold that the proposed legislation is 'appropriate legislation' to cure or prevent the evil of lynching wherever in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof that evil exists or is committed.

"White or black, all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States and no State may, by affirmative legislative, judicial or executive action or by failure, neglect or refusal to act, deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, or deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law.

Not "Sectional."

"A careful and dispassionate study of the provisions of this bill as amended will, the committee thinks, convince Senators that it is 'appropriate legisla-

tion,' within the competency of Congress to enact, to safeguard and protect those rights to life, liberty and property which are guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

"The proposed legislation is not and should not be considered in any way sectional. The evil it is designed to cure is not confined to any particular section or State, North or South, East or West. This monstrous evil, which is a disgrace to the nation, we should strive to wipe out by a firm and just exercise of every legitimate power confered upon and residing in the Federal legislation.

"The proposed legislation is not an invasion or subversion of the rights of States, nor is it designed to relieve the States from the performance of their duty to secure to all persons within their several jurisdictions equal protection of the law. On the contrary, the proposed legislation is in aid of the several States and will be impartially administered by the people of the several States.

"American citizenship is indeed a badge of honor; it should be, and this bill seeks to make it, a shield of protection to every American citizen, man, woman and child, native and naturalized, who stands on American soil, hedged round and guarded, as they are, by the legislation of the United States."

The report was not signed by members of the committee. Several of them, including Senator Borah (Idaho), are strongly of the opinion that the proposed law is unconstitutional, although they are willing to have the Senate act on the proposition.

Senator Shortridge, in submitting the report, said he would call up the bill at the earliest possible moment, as he is desirous of having action taken on it at this session of Congress.

Lawyers Uphold Bill.

The amendments proposed by the Senate Judiciary Committee aim to meet the objections of the bill, as it was passed by the House, to the effect it is a serious encroachment upon the police powers of the States.

The bill, as reported to the Senate, provides that any State or municipal officer in whose custody is entrusted the life of any person shall, if convicted of negligence in guarding that person from a mob or riotous assemblage, be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or a fine not exceeding $5,000, or both.

Furthermore, any country in which the officers are proved to have been negligent in guarding a prisoner who is put to death by a mob shall be subject to a fine of $10,000.

Senator Shortridge submitted with his report briefs by noted lawyers, including Moorfield Storey of Boston and Herbert K. Stockton of New York, in which they argued in their judgment the pending bill is constitutional.

Mr. Storey says: "It would seem clear in any event that Congress should not refuse to do its duty because of the fear that the Supreme Court might not agree with it as to the necessity and legality of the act which the House of Representatives has passed. The distinction between the cases which have hitherto been presented to the court and this case is very clear. If Congress errs, the Supreme Court will have the power to correct the error, but if Congress refuses to act it is responsible for the continuance of the infamous practice which the bill is framed to stop."

CHICAGO ILL NEWS
JULY 17, 1922

Lynching Legislation by Congress.

Since the Herrin massacre and the shocking after developments due to the prevailing mass indifference and mass terrorism in Williamson county the people of Illinois naturally take an increased interest in the Dyer antilynching bill that has passed the national house of representatives by a decisive vote. Doubts as to its constitutionality have been the chief obstacle to favorable action upon it in the senate.

A careful brief in support of the Dyer bill has been prepared by Moorfield Storey and published by the National Association for the Advancement of the Colored People. Mr. Storey does not minimize the effect of a whole series of decisions by the Supreme court of the United States in which the clauses of the federal constitution usually relied upon by the advocates of national antilynching legislation were held to be limitations on the power of congress rather than upon the power of the states. He recognizes that fear of federal encroachment led to the adoption of the first ten amendments to the constitution. But he makes the important point that a law "must be interpreted by its words," not by the motives of its original framers, and the courts themselves have said repeatedly that the meaning of an instrument must be found, if possible, "within the four corners of the instrument."

Now, the fifth amendment to the consituation declares that "no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law." These words should assure to every citizen or resident of America due process of law, regardless of the source or direction whence the fundamental right is threatened. Congress must possess the power to enact any appropriate legislation designed to prevent and punish willful violation of that right. Since it is notorious that the states have not been able to enforce effectively their antilynching laws, and since American citizens have been and are being deprived of life by mobs, there is no alternative save federal legislation to carry out the constitutional mandate.

It is argued, however, that not anywhere in the constitution is congress clothed with power to safeguard the fundamental rights of American citizens. This objection would be formidable and, indeed, it has been stressed by critics of the Dyer bill. They overlook, unfortunately, the established judicial doctrine that no express grant of power is needed in the case, for the Supreme court has held in several leading opinions that "a right or immunity, whether created by the constitution or only guaranteed by it, may be protected by congress even without any express delegation of power."

Mr. Storey certainly proves in his brief that the senate would not be justified in assuming that congress is so plainly powerless in the premises that it would be a waste of time and effort to pass federal antilynching legislation. The benefit of the doubt should be given to the citizens in need of protection, not to the opponents of the pending bill. Congressional errors can be corrected by the courts. In failing to act because of doubt congress would, in effect, make itself morally responsible for intolerable practices.

N Y C NORTH SIDE NEWS
JULY 16, 1922

"CONSTITUTIONAL IMMORALITY"

Criticized for his opposition to what he describes as the "so-called Anti-Lynching bill," Senator Borah writes a letter to the Boston Transcript wherein he gives expression to logical and sound views, showing both the futility of the measure and its lack of Constitutional warrant. He argues that the proposed Federal law will neither prevent nor punish the crime of lynching because it is aimed only at officers of the law who fail to protect the intended victim or neglect to bring the perpetrators to justice. But what chiefly concerns and interests Senator Borah is the underhand usurpation of State rights by the Federal power. He asserts, with good reason, that if the Federal government can appropriate the police powers of the States in this instance, on the ground of providing greater efficiency, it can do so in any or all cases.

He pointedly remarks that the real issue in this, as in the case of child labor, is whether there should be a redistribution of power of the State in whole or in part. He shows that there is a power of th eState in whole or in part. He shows that there is a constant pressure on members of Congress to disregard their oaths to support the Constitution and on the Supreme Court to provide virtually a new Constitution. He asserts that for tweny years Congressmen have been compromising wih their oaths under such pressure and in many cases have been guilty of "Constitutional immorality." In its recent ruling on the child labor measure the Supreme Court pointed out that these attempts to circumvent the Consitution derive power from the fact that the end sought is worthy. That decision is an effort to check the trend of which Senator Borah complains. Worthy ends must be achieved constitutionally, or the whole fabric of our dual system of government will be threatened with collapse.

SAVANNAH GA NEWS
JULY 2, 1922

DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

When the primary election fraud law was passed it was supposed by its Republican supporters that it would have a tremendous effect against the Democratic party in the South. But the very first big case in which it was invoked was that of Senator Newberry, Republican, of Michigan. And the Dyer anti-lynching bill was having a mighty hard struggle in the Senate judiciary committee when along came the Herrin, Ill., massacre to give its advocates more strength of argument. It is a strange thing that some bills cooked up largely by Republicans and aimed at the South, should apparently be more badly needed in the North. Maybe, if this sort of thing keeps on, our holier-than-thou Northern neighbors will quit talking about how uncivilized we all are down here and how much we need the beneficent effect of federal laws and supervision, to say nothing of a little federal force now and then.

As to the Dyer bill it has had its principal support from those who wanted to stir up the formerly efficacious political anti-South talk, a vote-getter of other days. Senator Lodge very plainly said his negro constituents were demanding action on it.

But the Dyer bill, even if passed, may find itself in opposition to the constitution, which leaves to the states their own policing. The national child labor law was knocked out on that ground by the Supreme Court, and the Dyer bill appears to suffer from the same fatal ailment as the child labor law.

One peculiar feature of the bill is that it requires "reasonable" efforts by state authorities to maintain order and protect prisoners. What is reasonable effort? The bill, if it should become law, would not find a victim until in the trial of a case brought under its provisions, failure of state authorities to protect mob victims had been proved to the satisfaction of the federal trial court. If a mob caught and killed its victim before officers could "reasonably" be expected to interfere, the bill then would have no effect as to them. If a mob jumped a sheriff and his prisoner before he could "reasonably" be expected to escape, the bill would be of no effect as to the sheriff.

Even if the Senate passes the bill—it will not have done much more than satisfy the anti-South politicians in some place in the North.

PASSED THE HOUSE BUT—!

The administration's subsidy measure has been passed by the House pretty much on schedule time and sent over to the senate. It finds the senate tied fast in a knot over the Dyer anti-lynching bill. The Republicans declare this latter bill shall pass. The Democrats declare it "shall not pass" and thus far they have made good their warning. Only today and tomorrow remain of the special session called by the president specifically to get the ship subsidy enacted and out of the way before the regular session should begin, as it must next Monday.

If the Dyer bill is laid away again for future reference, the Democratic senators will have won their point—not a pleasant or encouraging experience for the Republicans. If they keep up the fight over the Dyer bill, then no subsidy. Even if they do sidetrack the Dyer bill today and plunge into consideration miracle could bet it through the senate, as now constituted and led, by the end of the special session sometime tomorrow night or Sunday morning. If the subsidy bill does fail to get through and has to be carried over into the regular session then the President may as well say a long farewell to that particular policy of his.

SPARTANSBURG S C HERALD
DECEMBER 1, 1922

Lynchings - 1922.
Legislation.

National (Dyer Bill)

1081

VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

New York Age 7-15-22

THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF THE DYER BILL.

A number of our readers have from time to time asked that some light and information on the mooted points of constitutionality of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill be given. They have requested this information for their own satisfaction and also for the purpose of having facts which would enable them to understand and meet arguments regarding the constitutionality of the Bill. We have therefore, epitomized, as given below, the brief on the Dyer Bill prepared for the Senate Committee on the Judiciary by Mr. Herbert K. Stockton of the firm of Haight, Smith, Griffin & Deming of New York City. This is the first time that Mr. Stockton's brief, which had so much to do with the final decision of the Judiciary Committee, has been given to the public.

The brief begins by eliminating a number of old cases and decisions which have been quoted against the Dyer Bill. It then proceeds to show the solid constitutional foundation upon which the Bill stands. The brief is, of course, written for lawyers but we feel sure that if the laymen will not bother his head about the legal citations he will find sufficient in the body of the brief to interest and enlighten him.

In view of the many judicial interpretations the Constitution and its amendments have received, it may be well to begin by clearing away certain lines of decisions which might at first sight be thought fatal to the proposed law but which I think can be shown to be irrelevant. It must first be observed that—

(1) The Dyer bill rests, or should rest, squarely and solely on a single clause of section 1 of the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution, which reads: "Nor shall any State * * * deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

I hope to show later that the proposed law is within the scope of this provision and its supplementary section 5, which empowers the Congress to enforce the provision quoted by appropriate legislation. Meanwhile, it helps clear the issue to note that:

(a) The Dyer bill does not invoke the rights of the citizen of the United States as distinct from the citizen of the individual State.

Therefore the line of decisions culminating in the Bisbee deportation cases, United States v. Wheeler (254 U. S. 281), has no application. It would be futile, it seems to me, to base an anti-lynching law on the constitutional rights of the citizen of the United States in view of that decision. Though not appearing in the statement of facts, I am told the county authorities were part of the armed mob which seized the United States citizens in question, because they were members of the I. W. W., locked them in box cars, and ran them out of Arizona into New Mexico. Mr. Chief Justice White, after stating that the court below had quashed the indictment on the ground that no power had been delegated by the Constitution to the United States to forbid and punish the wrongful acts complained of as the right to do so was exclusively within the authority reserved by the instrument to the several States, cited Cornfield v. Coryell (4 Wash. C. C. 371); Slaughter House cases (16 Wall. 36); Paul v. Virginia (8 Wall. 168); Ward v. Maryland (12 Wall. 418), and on the strength of these cases affirmed the judgment of the court below, observing at page 298:

> * * * No basic is afforded for contending that a wrongful prevention by an individual of the enjoyment by a citizen of one State in another of rights possessed in that State by its own citizens was a violation of a right afforded by the Constitution. This is the necessary result of article 4, section 2, which reserves to the several States authority over the subject, limited by the restriction against State discrimitory action, hence excluding Federal authority except where invoked to force the limitation which is not here the case. * * * A conclusion expressly sustained by the ruling in United States v. Harris (106 U. S. 629, 645), to the effect that the second section of article 4, like the fourteenth amendment, is directed alone against State action.

See also United States v. Harris (106 U. S. 629); James v. Bowman (190 U. S. 127).

It is to be noted from this quotation and from these cases (1) that in United States v. Wheeler the Fedral authority to enforce the limitation on the States (e. g., against denying equal protection) was not invoked as it is invoked by the Dyer bill, and (2) that the Dyer bill, to be constitutional, must be shown to be "directed alone against State action," as I hope to show that it is directed. By the same course of reasoning we must also put aside such cases as Logan v. United States (144 U. S. 263), where lynchers of a United States marshal's prisoners were held to be subject to Federal indictment. That case involved the rights of a citizen of the United States, and this fact gave the Federal Government power to act directly upon individuals as distinguished from the State.

(b) The Dyer bill does not invoke the power of the United States to enforce the thirteenth amendment, which prohibits slavery and involuntary servitude.

Accordingly we can eliminate such cases as Hodges v. Unitetd States (203 U. S. 1), where it was held that the Federal Government could not by legislation act against persons intimidating Negroes from working for wages. This decision was placed on the ground that inability to contract was not an essential element of slavery. Also we can disregard the Slaughterhouse cases and the Civil Rights case (109 U. S. 3), in so far as they deal with the thirteenth amendment. On the authority of Hodges v. United States, the Supreme Court, in United States v. Powell, defeated an attempt of Congress to deal with individual lynchers. It is to be noted, however, that the indictment of the lynchers in the Federal court was under sections 5508, 5509, Revised Statutes, prohibiting conspiracy to injure a citizen in his enjoyment of rights secured to him by the constitution. The court in the Hodges case said, by Mr. Justice Berwer (p. 14):

> That prior to the three post bellum amendments to the Constitution the National Government had no jurisdiction over a wrong like that charged in this indictment is conceded; that the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments do not justify the legislation is also beyond dispute, for they, as repeatedly held, are destrictions upon State action, and no action on the part of the State is complained of.

We are thus brought squarely to the question, Do the provisions of the Dyer Bill aim to reach the lynching evil by acting on individuals or on States?

(II) The proposed law constitutes appropriate Federal action under the fourteenth amendment to prevent the individual State from denying to persons within its jurisdiction the equal protection of its laws.

We find the solid ground of fact under our feet at once when we regard the proposed law from this angle, for the State

do not give equal protection.

You know and I know, everybody, even the individual members of the Supreme Court know, that the victims of lynching mobs do not get the equal protection of the State's laws, that State and county officials do not try to prevent this crime as they try to prevent other crimes, that they do not try to punish this crime as they try to punish other crimes. This is susceptible of overwhelmingly convincing demonstration. And it is of the greatest importance, in my estimation, that a strong record, showing in graphic detail the unequal protection afforded the victims of lynching mobs, should be made before the committee which has the bill under consideration, or in whatever place and manner is appropriate, so that this record can be brought before the Supreme Court when it passes on the constitutionality of the law.

It is worth noting in passing that it is in record with the fundamental purpose of this amendment for the Federal Government to take action to insure the Negroes particularly equal protection. Their plight was the cause of the amendment being adopted; their plight now is the occasion of this legislation.

But is such inequality as the Negroes suffer in connection with lynchings the denial of equal protection by the States which the Constitution prohibits? To anticipate such an objection we should next observe the inequality in administration is a denial of equal protection of the laws.

It hardly seems possible to make any definition which more exactly fits the existing conditions with respect to lynchings than the constitutional phrase "deny the equal protection of the laws." It is clear that this must not be taken to mean only the passage of discriminating statutes or ordinances. The language of the provision we rely on is sharply distinct from the language of the preceding provision against discriminating legislation, which is that "no State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities," etc.; not to deny that equal protection of laws imports not only an obligation to make no laws which discriminate but equally an obligation to enforce all State laws in existence, so that all persons within the jurisdiction of the State enjoy equal protection from them. But the Supreme Court has said this very exactly:

> The denial of rights given by the fourteenth amendment need not be by legislation. (Saunders *v.* Shaw, 244 U. S. 317, p. 320).

So, in Tarrance v. Florida (188 U. S. 519), Mr. Justice Brewer said, page 520 (the italics are mine):

> The contention of plaintiffs in error is that they were denied the equal protection of the laws by reason of an actual discrimination against their race. *The law of the State is not challenged but its administration is complained of.* As said by their counsel:
>
> "We do not contend that the colored men are discriminated against by any law of the State in the selection of names for jury duty, nor do we contend that a Negro being tried for a criminal offense is entitled to a jury composed wholly or in part of members of his race, but we do claim that when a Negro is tried for a criminal offense he is entitled to a jury selected without any discrimination against his race on account of race, color, or prervious conditions of servitude; and when this is not the case he is denied the equal protection of the laws as guaranteed by the fourteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States."
>
> *Such an actual discrimination is as potential in creating a denial of equality of rights as a discrimination made by law.* But such an actual discrimination is not presumed. It must be proved or admitted.

I believe the Supreme Court will come to adopt the reasoning ably expressed by Krekel, D. J., in his charge to the jury in United States v. Blackburn (Fed. Cas. No. 14603):

> By the equal protection of the laws, spoken of in the indictment, is meant that the ordinary means and appliances which the law has provided shall be used and put in operation in all cases of violation of law. Hence if the outrages and crimes shown to have been committed in the case before you were well known to the community at large, and that community and the officers of the law wilfully failed to employ the means provided by law to ferret out and bring to trial the offenders because of the victims being colored, it is a depriving them of the equal protection of the law.

Having established that in fact the victims of the lynchings, generally Negroes, are being denied the equal protection of the laws by the States, in the sense contemplated by the fourteenth amendment, we next come to the question whether the proposed law is "appropriate legislation" to enforce the prohibition which the Constitution has declared against such denial. We find it settled law that in forcing the State to afford the equal protection of the laws the Federal Government can act directly upon such individuals as are the agents of the State, and whose act or neglect constitutes the denial by the State of the equal protection.

This was strikingly exemplified in Ex parte Virginia (100 U. S. 339), where the petition of J. D. Coles, a county judge of Virginia, for writ of habeas corpus was denied and the act under which he was indicted from excluding Negroes from his jury list was found constitutional. The act provided that no citizen otherwise qualified should be disqualified for jury service on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude, and that any officer or other person charged with any duty in the selection or summoning of jurors who shall exclude or fail to summon any citizen for the cause aforesaid shall, on conviction thereof, be deemed guilty of a misdeameanor, and be fined not more than $5,000.

Mr. Justice Strong says, on page 345, that in Strauder v. West Virginia (100 U. S. 303):

> We held that immunity from any such discrimination is one of the equal rights of all persons, and that any withholding it by a State is a denial of the equal protection of the laws, within the meaning of the amendment.

The court says further (p. 345) of the fifth section of the amendment:

> We have said the prohibitions of the fourteenth amendment are addressed to the States. * * * A state acts by its legislative, its executive, or its judicial authorities. It can act in no other way. The constitutional provision, therefore, must mean that no agency of the State, or of the officers or agents by whom its powers are exerted, shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. * * * Power was given to Congress to enforce its provisions by appropriate legislation. Such legislation must act upon persons, not upon the abstract thing denominated a State, but upon the persons who are the agents of the State in the denial of the rights which were intended to be secured. Such is the act of March 1, 1875, and we think it was fully authorized by the Constitution.

As lately as 1912 in Home Telephone & Telegraph Co. v. Los Angeles (227 U. S. 278), Mr. Chief Justice White said at pages 286 and 287:

> * * * The provisions of the (fourteenth) amendment as conclusively fixed by previous decisions are generic in their terms, are addressed, of course, to the States, but also to every person whether natural or judicial who is the repository of State power.
>
> * * * The settled construction of the amendment is that it presupposes the possibility of an abuse by a State officer or representative of the powers possessed and deals with such a contingency.

And at page 296:

> The immediate and efficient Federal right to enforce the contract clause of the Constitution as against those who violate or attempt to violate its prohibition, which has always been exerted without question, is but typical of the power which exists to enforce the guaranties of the fourteenth amendment.

The provisions of the Dyer Bill are within the scope of these decisions.

The bill is entitled "An act to assure persons within the jurisdiction of every State the equal protection of the laws."

Now, sir, I urge upon you the conclusion that you should not refuse to force this bill out of committee and urge its passage with all the power at your command, merely because neither you nor I can guarantee that the Supreme Court is going to take the view of this bill that I have set forth above. The bill is very ably drawn. It is probably the best bill that can be framed under the peculiarly artificial restrictions of our Constitution. It ought to be held constitutional by the Supreme Court. I think it is entirely true to say that the court can hold the bill constitutional on sound reasoning if it wants to. This is the case, therefore, where the problem ought to be put squarely up to the court; it is not a case of passing the responsibility to the court because the legislature does not want to incur the popular odium of refusing the remedial statute.

Lynchings-1922
Legislation

(Dyer Bill) National.

1082

Senate Should Kill This Bill.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn.
1/29/22

If the Senate of the United States wishes to continue as the high legislative court of a government of all the people, by all the people and for all the people it is its duty to kill the measure of Representative Dyer which has passed the House of Representatives under the false title of an "anti-lynching bill." As conceived and enacted the Dyer measure is nothing more nor less than an example of government by one section against another section. Although to all appearances it applies to all parts of the country where a so-called lynching might occur, we know that in its application, should it become a law, it will be directed solely against the south.

But there ought to be little danger of it becoming a law even though it should pass the Senate and be signed by President Harding. On its face it is such a clear invasion of the constitutional rights of the states that a number of those who voted for it did so while believing fully that it would be declared unconstitutional by the United States supreme court. The votes of all such congressmen were merely baits for other votes—the votes of the negroes in some of the big doubtful states. They expect to catch their fish and then have the supreme court save the country from the evils that will flow from what they have done.

But the Senate of the United States should not permit itself to become the proselyting agency for any political organization. It should have the courage of its convictions, and if it has there should be no doubt about the fate of the Dyer bill. The Senate should not attempt to squint at the fact that the measure, instead of operating, should it become temporarily the law, as a preventive of lynchings will in reality become provocative of lynchings. The plain truth is that there is one particular crime that causes almost all outbreaks of mob violence and that this crime in the great majority of cases is the work of ignorant and illiterate members of the negro race. Now this class would not understand the meaning of the passage of such a measure as the Dyer bill. They would construe it to be not merely a preventive of lynching but also a protection of themselves from any punishment should they be guilty of the particular and unmentionable crime.

The result of this would be a great increase in the number of cases that provoke mob violence. Of course the major and best sentiment of the south would be for visiting only lawful punishment upon all such criminals but there are most forbidding possibilities involved in such a situation. It ought to be evident, therefore, to all thinking men whether north or south, that the Dyer bill, even as a temporary law, instead of improving conditions would make them infinitely worse. For the good of the whole country the Senate should kill it.

Extracts From Congressman Brand's Address on Dyer Bill

Atlanta Ga. Constitution
1/30/22

(Congressman C. H. Brand, of the ninth Georgia district, in discussing the Dyer anti-lynching bill in the house.)

"I can understand why a member of congress who is not a lawyer may get his consent to vote for this uncalled-for and vicious legislation, but for a lawyer to do so means one of two things: First, that he has little regard for the oath he took when he solemnly swore that he would support the constitution of the United States; or, second, that his study of law and the constitution, and particularly his investigation of the decisions of the courts upon the question involved, has been in vain.

"Lynching by hanging or killing people without legal trial did not originate in the south. The distinguished gentleman from Ohio (Mr. Burton), in a well-prepared speech, though I disagree with his legal conclusions, in quoting history only partly, impliedly, if not in express terms, charged the state of Virginia with being the author of lynching. His historical reference was to the law administered by Charles Lynch, a Virginia planter. During the career of this man and his neighbors, Robert Adams and Thomas Callaway, not a human being was killed. The mode of inflicting punishment was short of death.

"Different writers have attempted to trace the origin of lynching to Ireland, England, South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The point I am making is that it is not a settled historical fact that Virginia or any other southern state originated lynching as it is commonly known at this time.

"As I stated on the floor the other day in a brief colloquy with the congressman from New York (Mr. Fish), Georgia never began or initiated the lynching business, but a company of Yankee soldiers did, which was the first lynching in Georgia and probably in the south. A negro man in 1865 had committed a rape upon a white woman near Lawrenceville, Ga., and after committing the act he fled to Lawrenceville, thinking that these soldiers would protect him from violence by the family and friends of the outraged woman. When his pursuers arrived at Lawrenceville the officer in charge of the company was told what the negro had done. He thereupon took the negro in custody, purchased a rope, and had it tied around the negro's neck. He called upon an old negro man who was present with a wagon and yoke of oxen. The rapist was placed on the wagon and the old negro man was ordered to drive under a certain tree in the courthouse square. One of the soldiers climbed the tree and hung the rope over a limb and the negro driver was ordered to move off. He hesitated, but at the point of a bayonet finally moved and left the rapist swinging to the limb until he died.

"Our people are opposed to lynching, though many are charged up against us. They abhor the cause which usually provokes lynching, because there is not a father with whom I ever discussed the subject who would not infinitely prefer to see his daughter dead and for all his remaining years hear the sound of the clods of clay as they fell upon her coffin than for her to become the victim of a negro's lust; and yet, in all this discussion by the majority, not a thought has been uttered nor a word of sympathy expressed by any republican who has spoken upon this question for the desolate and helpless victim of these brutes.

"The truth is, this proposed legislation is partisan and political. It is a blow at the white people of the south—nothing more and nothing less. The bill was introduced and is being prosecuted in order to promote the welfare of many of the republicans in this house. It was introduced and is being prosecuted at the instance of their negro constituents, among others, and the negro societies in the north, who are not so much interested in preventing lynching of negroes for assaults upon our white women as they for establishing social and political equality with the white people is the expected climax of their efforts. This is the fruitage they hope and pray may grow of the agitation of the negro question and be the result of the pending legislation. Human villainy has sounded no lower depths than is here fathomed in this political effort to bring about such an infamous heritage.

"The negro associations and societies and the republicans who are encouraging these conspirators are doing the white and colored races of the south an irreparable injury. Those of you who are actors upon the stage for these negroes are playing with lightning. You are sowing to the wind, when the harvest may be a revolution.

"The people of Georgia, nothwithstanding she has been denounced in severe terms on this floor, are against lynching. The courts, the press, the pulpit, the bar of the state are a unit in opposition to lynching in all of its forms. All these classes are using their brains, talents and influence to put an end to it, and yet this does not mean that they will stand for or submit to social equality for which these negro agitators and their republican brethren are longing.

"Social equality may come to pass in the territory north of the Mason and Dixon line, but the stars will cease to shine and the heavens will be rolled up as a scroll before this state of affairs will ever exist among white people of the south."

Says Even Dyer Bill Has Its Compensations

Atlanta Ga. Constitution
2/2/22

Editor Constitution: While, in common with all old-fashioned adherents of states' rights, I thoroughly commend your today's editorial on the Dyer bill, the matter is not entirely without its compensations.

If you could have been with me on a recent trip through Georgia from Manchester to Fitzgerald and Thomasville, you would be surprised at the luke-warmness of the opposition.

It is frequently pointed out, that had the Dyer bill been enacted into law some months ago, Ben Hill county would have already paid $10,000 to that most deserving widow of Engineer Reed, who was brave enough and patriptic enough to face danger to earn an honest living for his family and at the same time perform a most needed public service.

It is also pointed out, that with that law in force, his murderers would probably have long since been punished.

People are so glad to be promised a little relief from the mob violence attendant upon strikes (about the most unpopular thing in Georgia today) that they are not so particular about straining the constitution a little bit, if it accomplishes a much-desired result, though we old-timers still object strenuously to any rape of the constitution.

E. A. WILKINSON.

Albany, Ga., January 30, 1922.

TEXT AND PRETEXT.

BY M. ASHBY JONES, D. D.

State Rights Plus State Responsibility.

Atlanta Independent
2/4/22

(Atlanta Constitution.)

The Dyer anti-lynching bill, just passed by the lower house of congress, has met with a storm of protest from the south. The protest is made on the ground that this bill is an invasion of the rights of the states. The fact that this bill was sponsored by the republican party, which has seldom missed an opportunity to use its political power to discredit the south, makes it difficult for us to discuss this question calmly and intelligently. Indeed the very fact that both of our political parties have for half a century used the Negro to inflame sectional passions for the purpose of getting votes, makes it almost impossible for the people of America to judge impartially any question where the interests of the Negro are involved. Conscious of my own limitations, I have tried to rid myself of these partisan irritations in my consideration of this issue.

The Great Charter.

I am sure that we will all recognize that it is the primary right and duty of any government to protect the lives of its citizens. In the performance of this duty it must guarantee to every man accused of a crime the right to an impartial trial by a jury of his peers. This is the priceless privilege won by our forefathers at Runnymede, when they wrung from the English crown the great charter on which our freedom is founded. Therefore, it is both the right and the duty of the United States government to see that its citizens are not robbed of this privilege. For a mob in Georgia to kill a man without a legal trial is unquestionably to rob him of his right as a citizen of the United States, and thus to commit an offense against the government of the United States.

Heretofore our national government has very wisely delegated to the courts of the state where the offense was committed, jurisdiction over these crimes. To put it another way, the national government has entrusted to the state government the sacred duty of protecting its citizens. But let it never be forgotten that in delegating this duty to the state, the national government does not, and cannot, surrender its right and its responsibility for the safety of its citizens. Therefore, it seems to be perfectly clear that, so far as the question of "rights" is involved, the federal government has the right to assume jurisdiction by special statute over the offense of the mob murder whenever it shall so decide.

A Question of Democracy.

However, simply because the government has the right to do this is far from saying that it is wise to do so. As a matter of general policy, I am convinced that the responsibility of police authority should be placed upon the state governments. Even where local self-government is not quite so effective in the execution of criminal laws, the sense of local responsibility has proven to be so valuable in the development of democracy that it would be almost

fatal to withdraw this responsibility from the community. To my mind here is the underlying reason for local self-government. It is a method by which democracy can best function. But if democracy will not function in any given locality—in other words, if the locality fails to govern itself—the national government cannot leave its citizens in that locality without the protection of some government. It is in duty bound to resume the responsibility which it had delegated to the locality. This principle applies to a state, a municipality, or any subdivision subject to a national authority.

This seems to me to be the principle involved in the proposed Dyer anti-lynching bill. Has the state government ceased to function in granting to the citizen the right of trial by jury, and thus protecting him from the terror of mob violence? Are we ready in Georgia to answer that question honestly? The record is that from January, 1897 to June, 1921—a period of twenty-four and a half years—there have been two hundred and eighty-six people lynched within the borders of our state, and not one single case of punishment for this crime. To answer, as our local representative in congress did, that "lynching will cease when the cause for lynching is removed," is to confess that government in this respect will continue to cease to function until some particular offense against government ceases to be committed. It is to shamelessly admit that, to this extent, local self-government has broken down, and organized democracy in our section of the nation has proven a failure.

But the inference clearly contained in our representative's statement, "when the cause for lynching is removed," that these illegal murders were all committed in punishment for the crime of rape, is overwhelmingly refuted by the facts. Less than one-third of these cases of lynching even claimed to be for that offense. Men, and even women, have been put to death illegally by the score often with barbaric cruelty, because they were accused, not convicted, of crimes ranging from murder to petty thievery. Do our congressmen who defend this record in Georgia, and other states represent the best moral sentiment of the south? If they do, then I am convinced that the national government should in some form assume jurisdiction.

The Rule of Righteousness.

But I for one want to clearly and distinctly insist that they do not represent the best traditions nor the highest ideals, of our southern people. The tragic situation is that this "best" of our beloved southland has not been aroused on this question to express itself in compelling utterance. It has not been organized, militant and dominant, against that dangerous demagoguery of the "professional southerner," which does not hesitate to inflame ignorant prejudice into brutal murder, for the purpose of gaining political power.

After frankly acknowledging the legal right of congress to enact an anti-lynching bill, I wish to register my profound conviction that the passage of the Dyer bill will only add another to the long tragic list of political blunders made in dealing with this vital issue. It will not help, it will only hurt. But, at the same time, let me say just as earnestly that unless the southern states are willing to assume their responsibility for putting an end to the barbarous crime of lynching, they have lost their right of moral protest against the assumption of jurisdiction by the national government. Let us protest against the enactment of the Dyer bill, not on the ground that no remedy is needed, but that the best moral sentiment and conviction of the south will furnish the remedy. Let us proclaim hereafter, not simply the doctrine of "state rights," but also the doctrine of state responsibility.

TEXT OF DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL-H. R. 13

Baltimore Afro-American

As Amended By Representative Volstead And Passed By The Lower House. The Bill Now Goes To The Senate

2/3/22

"SEC. 1 That the phrase 'mob or riotous assemblage', when used in this act, shall mean an assemblage composed of *three or more persons acting in concert* for the purpose of depriving any person of his life without authority of law as a punishment for or to prevent the commission of some actual or supposed public offense.

"SEC. 2 That if any State or governmental subdivision thereof fails, neglects, or refuses to provide and maintain protection to the life of any person within its jurisdiction against a mob or riotous assemblage such State shall be deemed to have denied to such person the equal protection of the laws of the State, and to the end that such protection as is guaranteed to the citizens of the United State by its Constitution may be secured it is provided:

"SEC. 3. *That any State or municipal officer* charged with the duty, or who possess the power or authority as such officer to protect the life of any person that may be put to death any mob or riotous assemblage, or who has any such person in his charge as a prisoner, who fails, neglects, or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to prevent such person from being put to death, or any State or municipal officer charged with the duty of apprehending or prosecuting any person participating in such mob or riotous assemblage who fails, neglects, or refuses to make all reasonable efforts to perform his duty in apprehending or prosecuting to final judgment under the laws of such State all persons so participating, except such, if any, as are or have been held to answer for such participation in any district court of the United States, as herein provided, *shall be guilty of a felony, and upon conviction theerof shall be punished by imprisonment not exceeding five years or by a fine not exceeding $5,000 or by both such fine and imprisonment.*

"Any State or municipal officer acting as such officer having under authority of State law in his custody or control a prisoner, who shall conspire, or confederate with any person to put such prisoner to death without authority of law as a punishment for some alleged public offense, or who conspire, combine, or confederate with any person to suffer such prisoner to be taken or obtained from his custody or control for the purpose of being put to death without authority of law as a punishment for an alleged public offense, shall be guilty of a felony, and those who so conspire, combine, or confederate with such officer shall likewise be guilty of a felony. On conviction the parties participating therein shall be punished by imprisonment for life or not less than five years.

"SEC. 4 The district court of the judicial district wherein a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall have jurisdiction to try and punish, in accordance with the laws of the State where the homicide is committed, those who participate therein, provided it is first made to appear to such court that the officers of the State charged with the duty of prosecuting such offense under the laws of the State fail, neglect, or refuse to apprehend or punish such participants, or that the jurors obtainable for service in the State court having jurisdiction of the offense are so strongly opposed to such punishment that there is no reasonable probability that those guilty of the offense can be punished in such State court. *A failure for more than 30 days after the commission of such an offense to apprehend the persons guilty thereof shall be prima facie evidence of such failure, neglect, or refusal.*

"SEC. 5 That any county in which a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall forfeit $10,000 which sum may be recovered by an action therefore in the name of the United States against such county for the use of the family, if any, of the person so put to death; if he had no family, then to his dependent parents, if any; otherwise for the use of the United States. Such action should be brought and prosecuted by the district attorney of the United States of the district in which county is situated in any court of the United States having jurisdiction therein. If such forfeiture is not paid upon recovery of a judgment therefor, such court shall have jurisdiction to enforce payment thereof by levy of execution upon any property of the county, or may compel the levy and collection of a tax therefor, or may otherwise compel payment thereof by mandamus of other appropriate process; and any officer of such county or other person who disobeys or fails to comply with any lawful order of the court in the premises shall be liable to punishment as for contempt and to any other penalty provided by law therefor.

"SEC. 6 That in the event that any person so put to death shall have been transported by such mob or riotous assemblage from the county to another county during the time intervening between his capture and putting to death, *the county in which he is seized and the county in which he is put to death shall be jointly and severally liable to pay the forfeiture herein provided.*

"SEC. 7 That any act committed in any State or Territory of the United States in violation of the rights of a citizen or subject of a foreign country secured to sich citizen or subject by treaty between the United States and such foreign country, which act constitutes a crime under the laws of such State or Territory, shall constitute a like crime against the peace and dignity of the United States, punishable in like manner as in the courts of said State or Territory, and within the period limited by the laws of such State or Territory, and may be prosecuted in the courts of the United States, and, upon conviction, the sentence executed in like manner as sentences upon convictions for crimes under the laws of the United States.

"SEC. 8 In construing and applying this act the District of Columbia shall be deemed a county, as shall also each of the parishes of the State of Louisiana.

"That if any section or provision of this act shall be held by any court to be invalid, the balance of the act not for that reason be held invalid."

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL NOW BEFORE SENATE

Measure Passed House Thursday By Vote Of 230 To 119

Baltimore Afro-American

ZILHMAN ONLY VOTER

Other Maryland Republican Congressmen Not Present At Final Count

2/3/22

Washington, D. C., Feb. 2.—By a vote of 230 to 119 the House of Representatives passed the Dyer Anti Lynching Bill, H. R. 13, last Thursday. The bill now lies before the Senate.

Congressman Zilhman was the only Maryland Republican to vote in favor of the measure. Representatives Hill, Blakeney and Mudd were among those registered as not voting. Representative Linthicum and Goldsborough were present and voted against passage of the measure.

N. A. A. C. P. Congratulated

In a letter to James Weldon Johnson, secretary, Congressman Dyer congratulated the N. A. A. C. P. "for the splendid assistance you have rendered to me in carrying on the fight to enact into law legislation that will make lynching a crime against the United States." Mr. Dyer adds that the Senate has over a year to take action on the bill that passed the House. "I feel sure that the United State's Senate will promptly and favorably consider this very important legislation." The Association has been fighting for an Anti-lynching bill for the past eleven years.

Quotes Rev. Johnson

In the effort to prevent the passage of the bill, Southern Democrats argued the race question contending that the Negro should enjoy no social, political or legal privilege. For five minutes, Representative Brand, of Georgia, quoted a pamphlet by Rev. Harvey Johnson, of Baltimore.

The pamphlet declares that the Negro race is older than the white race and that the latter is a failure in religion, in business and in government. Brand emphasized that Rev. Johnson declares in his pamphlet, "why take the white man's religion when white preachers join mobs that murder, lynch and burn members of the colored race and that is simply because they are colored? No, I say, thrice no, for the white man's religion is just a pretense. It is a hypocrisy gone to seed. So we, the colored race, are refusing to receive it."

COLUMBUS O JOURNAL
JANUARY 8, 1922

Lynchings in 1921.

While Congress has before it for consideration the Dyer bill that makes lynching a federal offense and provides administration of the law by the federal government, the record of lynchings in this country for 1921 has been made public at Tuskegee. It shows there were sixty-three lynchings in the past year, a decrease of two compared with the record of the preceding year. of the victims were white men. Georgia and Mississippi were at the top of the list with seven each, while Texas and Arkansas had six, Florida, South Carolina and Louisiana had five each, Alabama had two and Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Virginia and other states had one each. Of the victims two were women.

Public sentiment against lynching has been developed rapidly during recent years and states with such affairs naturally shrink from the criticism that is leveled at them as the shameful record is made public. Each year one bright spot in the record is supplied by courageous officials who defeat the plans for lynching and beat off the members of the mobs. These shocking affairs can be prevented and each year there are officers who defend their prisoners and make a brave stand for the orderly administration of law. There is no excuse for lynchings and communities that permit them make a large investment in bad record from which public sentiment will not permit them to escape in the future. It is not certain what action Congress may take on the Dyer bill but it is certain that sentiment against these mob murders is growing stronger each year.

Lynchings—1922.
Legislation.

1883

National (Dyer Bill)

BIRMINGHAM ALA NEWS
MAY 24, 1922

Lynching Bill Giving Power To Federal Government Is Held Unconstitutional.

The Senate committee to which the "Dyer anti-lynching bill" was referred has brought in its finding, which is that the measure is unconstitutional and an invasion of State sovereignty; in other words, that the States were not to be interfered with in the maintenance of peace and order within their borders, unless such a state of affairs existed as was recently in West Virginia, where conditions had gotten entirely beyond the power of State officials to control and amounted to armed uprising and insurrection.

The finding of the committee was doubtless influenced by the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, announced by Chief Justice Taft in the "child labor" act, whereby the court held that the Tenth Amendment was violated by such legislation, and the States' sovereignty was invaded.

In many respects it is well that this Dyer bill meets an early fate. It was passed by a partisan vote in the House of Representatives, the Republican majority enacting it as a sop to the colored vote. Negro organizations and some white ones of the North were very insistent upon its passage: the debate in the House was most acrimonious, and the Southern members highly resentful of the attitude taken by the members of the majority. Had the bill passed the Senate and become a law it would have accomplished nothing, but would have stirred up a world of ill-feeling, and perhaps given the more ignorant and lawless element of the colored race the hazy notion that in some way they were special wards of the federal government and would be protected in their misdeeds: and such an idea would have made for a greater amount of lawlessness and greater friction.

Truth of the matter is, there are so many elements entering into this question of mob violence it is hard to say just what is the remedy, if there is one which is a specific. One may argue that speedy trials and certain punishment is the thing to eradicate mob effort. That will not answer entirely.

Knowledge that speedy trial and conviction and certain punishment will follow the commission of an atrocious crime will do much to allay the tendency to take matters in the hands of a mob and wreak summary punishment. In the case of a criminal taken from a Georgia jail Tuesday, the crime had been committed three years ago. He had been twice sentenced to death, quibbles and law points having enabled him to escape his fate, and finally, the patience of the people of the community broke. They doubtless felt that another appeal was due, and more indefinite delay, and in the end, after witnesses died, moved away, or changed their testimony, the criminal would go free. They tried a short cut, and he went free anyway, but there should be a lesson in it for the courts and the bar.

If the courts will devote themselves to the doing of substantial justice, as the English courts do, instead of setting about to split hairs and quibble over the difference between tweedledum and tweedledee; if criminal cases can be expedited, and the rules of criminal procedure in the courts so amended as to give the State an equal show with the defense, there will be more confidence in the courts, and less inclination to take summary measures on the part of the people. "The law's delays" are as much re-

sponsible for mob violence as the crimes which are the inception of such action. The bar associations of the various States can greatly clarify the present condition if they have a mind to.

PEORIA ILL TRANSCRIPT
MAY 29, 1922

THE LYNCHING EVIL.

While the Dyer anti-lynching bill has been reposing in the senate under protest that its provision penalizing counties is unconstitutional, Negroes have been burned in various parts of the country and in one case dragged to death over the ground at the tail of a horse.

Statistics show that in the thirty years from 1889 to 1918, 3224 persons were lynched in the United states, of whom 2,522 were Negroes. Of the blacks, fifty were women. The north was guilty of 219 outrages of this character, and the west 156. Alaska and unidentified localities were debited with 15 and the south 2834. Formerly, the crime of lynching was laid directly to the south, but in late years Ohio, Illinois, Minnesota and Colorado have become seriously involved.

Theoretically, there are excellent reasons for loading down the federal government with lynching cases, but there are grave doubts whether states in which these outrages are committed would not "let Uncle Sam do it" as they have done in Volstead act violations. If the states are unwilling to proceed vigorously against Judge Lynch, it is no cynical reflection upon our form of government to suggest that the federal government would be equally negligent or inept. The recent trend of legislation has been to attempt to settle all local issues by appealing to Washington.

Washington has been surfeited with legislation to the point of precipitation. Every time a state lets Uncle Sam do it, there is a new appropriation and a new army of detectives, organizers, and propagandists. The position of the south with respect to Negroes charged with attacks upon white women will not be much affected by a federal statue, and this is the crime which supports the institution of lynching. The fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the constitution were directed against the south. They never have been enforced. Would the Dyer proposal be received with more respect? We don't think so.

We are not prepared to say that the Dyer bill, if enacted into law, would not strengthen the case against lynching, but certain it is that it would weaken local authority in that another surrender would be made by the states. If there is any force in the platitude that our government is broadbased on local self-government, the fashion of appealing to Washington is not a hopeful sign.

What is needed in this country is a revival of law and order in small political units. There is too much responsibility out-bound and too little in-bound.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL HAS ROUGH ROAD TO TRAVEL

Chicago Tribune
5/24/22

Washington, D. C., May 23.—[Special.]—The administration anti-lynching bill was considered by the senate judiciary committee today, but without any conclusion being reached. It will be taken up again tomorrow. The probabilities are that it will be referred back to a subcommittee for redrafting.

The bill as it passed the house was held by a majority of a subcommittee which has the bill before it to be unconstitutional. Senator Borah [Idaho], Republican, chairman, and two Democratic senators, Shields [Tenn.] and Overman [N. C.], took this position.

Want Bill Redrafted.

Senator Sterling [S. D.] and Senator Dillingham [Vt.], Republicans, while believing that under previous decisions of the Supreme court of the United States the bill would be unconstitutional as it now stands, hold that it should be redrafted and that the court should be asked again to pass upon the constitutionality of the question involved, the right of the federal government to deal with individuals in states violating the fourteenth amendment to the constitution.

Senators Sterling and Dillingham believe that, in view of the existing lynching evil in this country, everything possible should be done to construct an anti-lynching statute and to obtain a decree from the court upholding it. Senator Shortridge [Cal.], Republican, in full committee took a similar view.

Hope for Action Eventually.

Proponents of the legislation believe that eventually the committee will report out a bill and place it on the senate calendar. That it can be passed at the present session of congress, however, appears improbable. Democrats from the south would stand solidly against such a measure on the ground that it was an invasion of state's rights. Such a group with the unlimited debate rule prevailing in the senate could hold up the bill indefinitely.

The next session of congress, beginning in December, is a short one, ending March 4, 1923, and the likelihood of action by the senate on an anti-lynching bill during the short session is very slim.

1883

Senate Pussyfooting on Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill

Washington, D. C., Saturday.—Senator Borah of Idaho, who is a member of the Judiciary Committee, has sent the following telegram to the Associated Negro Press, Chicago, in which he says:—

"The majority of the Judiciary Committee seems to feel the anti-lynching measure proposed is clearly unconstitutional. The decisions of the Supreme Court seem to leave no escape from that conclusion. It would be a wholly futile thing, therefore, to pass it. It is the purpose of the committee, however, to continue the effort to frame a bill if possible which will stand the test of the courts, and with that end in view the committee is now working."

5/27/22

Anti-Lynch Bill Unconstitutional, Is Borah Opinion

Atlanta Constitution

Subcommittee, Headed by Idaho Senator, Opposes Passing Measure.

5/24/22

Washington, May 23.—An opinion that the anti-lynching bill passed recently by the house is unconstitutional, and should not be enacted by congress, was submitted to the senate judiciary committee by a subcommittee, headed by Senator Borah, republican, of Idaho. The bill was discussed at length, and the full committee deferred final judgment until tomorrow.

Senator Borah was joined in holding the bill unconstitutional by Senator Overman, democrat, of North Carolina, and Senator Shields, democrat, of Tennessee. The other subcommittee members, Senator Sterling, republican, of South Dakota, and Dillingham, republican, of Vermont, were said to be in complete disagreement, but believed the bill might well be passed and be tested before the supreme court of the United States.

That the supreme court of the United States had decided squarely in a lynching case from Alabama, that a federal anti-lynching law was beyond the federal powers, was contended by Senator Borah and his associates.

Therefore, it was said that they asserted it would be useless to present the question anew under the pending bill to the high court. The question of procedure, however, was questioned by other committee members and a decision went over.

The bill, introduced by Representative Dyer, republican, of Missouri,

would give the federal government power to punish members of lynching parties. It has been urged strongly by negro associations and others.

TROTTER ANSWERS JOHNSON ON DYER BILL.

William Monroe Trotter, national corresponding secretary of the National Equal Rights League, Rev. M. A. N. Shaw, president, has sent to J. W. Johnson, secretary of the N. A. A. C. P., a denial of the truth of the charges made in the personal attack on him in the letter sent to the colored press by the Association last week and published in this paper. Secretary Trotter in his letter of reply sent from the League headquarters at 34 Cornhill, Boston, says,

"Your letter sent out by the Press Department of the N. A. A. C. P. makes false accusations against me when it says that, in giving to the press a report of the interview with Senator Borah as to when he would report out the Dyer Bill after Senator Lodge had induced him to act, following the Equal Rights League's audience with Senator Lodge, either myself or the League 'belittled' the Association's efforts made or 'false implication against it," or "put the imputation into Senator Borah's mouth." None of these things were done by me.

"You speak solely of that part of my report where mention is made that Senator Borah defended his sub-committee from blame for delay by saying it was not their fault for they had been waiting only to give certain lawyers time to file their briefs, which time they had requested, but he would immediately telegraph these lawyers that they would have only 48 hours to get their briefs in.

"Such was, in brief, what Mr. Borah said in self-defense, using the name of 'Mr. Johnson of New York, etc., as interesting these lawyers in the matter,' referring thereby to the Association, and adding that he would hasten because 'our sub-committee is being hammered too hard for the delay for us to await their briefs longer.'

"You may not believe in reporting both sides of an official audience, but I do, in justice to the person interviewed. That is the whole story. We had no idea you would be sensitive over Borah's excuses.

"However be assured, and this is the main point, that the League and myself are heartily with the N. A. A. C. P. in all its endeavors for the Colored Americans, and hope there will be no more mistaken charges and unkind words, etc. to disturb this friendly feeling. Let us in a spirit of both organization and individual fraternity. This is no time to quarrel among ourselves.

"WILLIAM MONROE TROTTER.

HELPING THE DYER BILL.

Atlanta Bulletin 5/20/22

If there is any justification whatever for the enactment of federal legislation to supplant state law in dealing with lynching and mob violence, it is precisely such atrocious and unconscionable acts of barbarity as those committed at Kirvin, Texas, a few days ago and in Davisboro, Ga., last Thursday that supply it.

In the Texas case three negro men were burned to death at a stake set up in the town square.

One of them is said to have confessed to an unspeakable crime, and to have implicated two others.

Describing the gruesome tragedy, the press dispatch said "there was some delay in burning the last two, inasmuch as they steadfastly maintained their innocence. Third degree methods failed to bring a confession from them and they were finally cremated on the strength of Curry's testimony."

The next day still another negro was lynched on the strength of faint suspicion that he, too, was implicated in the original crime—making four in all who suffered death for a crime of which only one was known to be guilty.

The fourth, however, was not burned at the stake, but was put to a more humane death at the end of a rope suspended from the limb of a tree.

In Washington county, our own state, last Thursday a young woman an rural mail carrier was brutally murdered, robbery evidently being the sole motive back of the crime.

A negro boy, 15 years old, suspected of having committed the murder, was promtply arrested by a sheriff's posse and confessed guilt.

Almost immediately he was seized by an infuriated mob and burned.

According to the news dispatch describing the incident—

The lynching occurred at the scene of the murder, with hundreds of persons from several counties looking on.

After being tortured with a slow fire for 15 minutes, according to witnesses, the mob loosened the tracechains that held Atkins to a pine tree and placed his seared body in the middle of the main highway. He was conscious, crying in pain. The mob demanded to know if there were others connected with the murder.

Atkins, the witnesses said, named John Henry Tarver, another negro boy, who he said was the only other person connected with it. He had previously connected his brother with the case.

Members of the mob then raised his body again, fastening it to the pine tree in an upright position, rekindled the fire and then stood off, giving those in the crowd opportunity to fire shots into the body.

Undertakers, who obtained the body following the lynching, state that more than 200 shots entered the body.

Immediately after the lynching the mob set out to find Tarver.

At the very time that this horrifying tragedy was being enacted a postoffice inspector was on his way to the county seat of Washington county to take the prisoner into the custody of the national government, **that he might be dealt with by federal law, under which the penalty for a crime such as had been committed is death.**

Pending in the senate is a measure known as the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which, if enacted, will give the federal government jurisdiction over all cases of lynching within the borders of any of the several states.

The Constitution disapproves that bill.

The measure contemplates federal usurpation of prerogative and authority which belongs to, and should rest with, the states.

But, as we have repeatedly maintained in the past, the time is coming when the states and local communities themselves must put an end to the anarchistic and indefensible practice of lynching or **be held within the bounds of civilization and of law and order by the power of outside authority!**

That is inevitable!

Human beings, black or white guilty of such atrocious crimes as those for which lynch law was resorted to in the cases in question should, of course, be punished to the fullest extent of the law.

There is no mitigation for such offenses.

Nor, by the same token, is there any measure of mitigation for mob violence.

And those who participated in such blood-curdling orgies of outlawry as those at Kirvin, Texas, and Davisboro, Ga., **did more to hasten the enactment of the unwelcome Dyer bill than anything its friends could possibly do on the floor of the senate.**

ST. LOUIS MO. POST DISPATC
MAY 28, 1922

STATE ANTI-LYNCHING BILL TO BE PROPOSED

Negro Industrial Commission Prepares Measure to Be Introduced in Legislature.

The Misouri Negro Industrial Commission at Jefferson City has prepared an anti-lynching bill which is to be introduced at the next General Assembly, and which defines lynching as murder and provides penalties against members of mobs; against law enforcement officers negligent in their duty to protect citizens and property, and against cities, towns and counties in which lynchings occur or from which citizens are taken and lynched.

A Federal anti-lynching bill, sponsored by Congressman Dyer of Missouri, is now pending in Congress, before a Senate subcommittee, the constitutionality of which has been questioned.

Eighty-three persons have been lynched in Missouri in the last 33 years, 30 of whom were white.

The law proposed for Missouri designates five or more persons as a mob, and provides that the putting to death of any person by a mob within this State shall be murder; that every person participating in such a mob shall be guilty of murder and punished for murder.

It provides that any person or persons in a mob who attempts to inflict damage to property or injury to a person, under the pretense of exercising correctionsl powers, shall be subject to fine and imprisonment, and for causing actual damage or injury, be guilty of a felony and punished by imprisonment.

It is further provided that any citizen who suffers injury to his person or damage to his property from mob violence, shall have an action against the county or city in which the injury or damage is inflicted, and that a county in which a person is taken from an officer and lynched, shall forfeit $5000, from which sum a dependent family may recover damages. It is also provided that officers guilty in neglect of duty to citizens menaced by mob violence shall be subject to suit for damages on their bonds.

PRES. AGAINST LYNCHING

Declares Stain Must Be Wiped Out

Savannah Tribune 6/15/22

Washington, D. C., June 14th (Associated Negro Press).—President Harding has stood four-square on his proposition of wiping away the stain of lynching from the banner of a free, orderly and representative democracy.

During the very able inaugural address delivered by the President, he insisted that this stain be wiped out. Since his inauguration he has stated openly that if an anti-lynching bill was passed, he would sign it.

At this time the Dyer Bill is in the Judiciary Committee of the Senate and the constitutional experts are laboring with a view of so shaping it that it will run the gauntlet of the Supreme Court.

On June 1, a committee of young men representing the colored colleges throughout the nation were presented at the White House by Perry W Howard, special assistant to the Attorney General, and they presented to the President a memorial asking that he continue to exercise his good offices to the end that an anti-lynching bill be placed upon the statutes.

To those who assay to doubt the President's committal to this program, it may be a surprise to know that the attitude of the President is to stand by the Republican platform touching this matter, to urge the passage of this bill through friends of the administration in Congress and to sign such a bill if passed.

This should remove every doubt in the minds of the most pessimistic as to where the administration stands on the question of lynching; and this delegation representative of the best of young colored manhood, left much encouraged and felt assured that they might hope for the best result in that direction.

Lynchings—1922
Legislation

National (Dyer Bill)

1085

National Negro Press Association Demands Passage of Anti-Lynch Bill

St. Louis Argus

Barbaric Practice Of Putting Human Beings To Death Is Practiced Almost Wholly In America, And Has Become Unbearable. Law-abiding Citizens Asked To Pledge Their Unceasing Vigilance To Put To An End This Damnable Disgrace And Blot On Civilization.

Mornoe and Bibb counties for the purpose of lynching and killing Glover."

The N. A. A. C. P. is carefully following these indictments to see if trials and convictions follow, of if the indictments are not to be pressed as has been the custom in the few cases where lynchers have been indicted in Southern states.

Realizing the growing menace of lynching in America and the apparent laxity of those who administer the laws that deal with such crimes. The National Negro Press Association addressed the following to the entire Negro population of the United States and to every law abiding citizen of this nation:

Lynching, the most brutal uncivilized and disgraceful method of putting human beings to death, is practiced almost wholly in America. During the last thirty-three years, 3424 such brutal crimes have been committed. Ninety-nine per cent of the unfortunate victims have been Negroes. About seventy-five per cent of these victims never had a trial in any kind of court. In 1921 fifty-two people were put to death by mobs. During the first six-months of this year over thirty people met their death in this horrible manner. If this ratio continues, this year's record will exceed that of last year.

Men were first the victims of the barbaric mobs, but now women and children are included in the mobbist list. The sanctity of Sunday has been trampled under the mob's feet and the church has become in many cases openly identified with the mob, as in Dyersburg, Tenn., a few years ago, when a church turned the congregation out, especially to attend the public burning of a Negro. The mobbist has discarded his mask and also ceased to confine his activities to the night time. Aeroplanes and automobiles have been used by the mob in hunting their victims.

This state of affairs has become unbearable to the Negro citizenship of the United States. During the last thirty-five years he has had little or no relief from this barbaric practice. The state governments, with few exceptions, have shown a lack of interest in the Negroe's protection, or have proven themselves wholly inadequate to carry out their laws. Even the great Federal Government with the power invested and implied in the President, Department of Justice and the two houses of Congress, has so far failed to even curb, let alone stamp out, this evil which is eating at the vitals of the entire nation. Lynching is one of the very few things the Government seems impotent to stop.

The time has come when this terrible state of affairs must be remedied. A bill designed to curb if not wholly put an end to lynching in the United States, is now waiting to be called up before the Senate for consideration and passage. This bill is known as the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, H. R. 13. The passage of a bill of this type dealing with lynching, was pledged in the Republican platform of 1920, and in the President's first message to Congress he said, "Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banner of the free and orderly representative democracy."

The time for the Republican party to carry out its pledges is now here. With a majority in the Senate now larger than ever in its history, and a bill which is declared by many to be sufficiently adequate in its provisions to curb and eventually to stop lynching, the Negroes of this country, thru their press demand that this bill be passed before the present session of Congress adjourns.

This bill is not a party measure, but is a measure for humanity. Prominent Democrats as well as Republicans have condemned lynching in strong terms.

The end of this damnable disgrace and terrible blot on civilization must stop and to this end the Negro Press and all law abiding citizens pledge their unceasing vigilance. No excuse will be accepted from supposed political friends for their failure to pass this needed legislation. The Senate has the power and the time to pass it, and the Senators owe it to humanity and their country to do it. There can be no plausible excuse for a refusal to pass this legislation which is so woefully needed now.

The Congress has appropriated and Government has paid to other Governments no less a sum than $792,499.39 to compensate the murder by lynching of foreign citizens by American mobs; and there are now with the Department of State unadjusted claims for a large amount for similar murders of Austrians, Greeks Japanese and Italians. This sum of $792,499.39 was paid for less than 100 lives of foreigners taken by mobs. The inquiry is pertinent: If we have paid $792,499.39 for less than 100 murdered foreigners, how much less has the country lost by the unjustifiable murder of 3424 Americans killed by mobs during the last thirty-three years. If this Government can compensate families of Foreigners who have been killed on this soil, surely it can not do less than protect its own citizens in their homes.

DYER SCORES NORTHERN NEGROES FOR APATHY ON ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Says If All Would Throw Themselves Vigorously Into Fght, The Bill Would Be Passed.

St. Louis Argus

NEW YORK, August 29—(Special) "Northern Negroes, feeling safe from lynchers, are not doing their utmost in the fight to secure passage of the anti-lynching bill which will put an end to lynching in this country," declared Congressman L. C. Dyer of Missouri, father of the anti-lynching bill, according to a letter from Mr. Dyer to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"If all the Negroes of the North would throw themselves vigorously into the fight, the bill would be passed and a death blow struck to the barbarism of mobs. I think it would be well for you to issue a special appeal to the colored people in the States where they have votes to get busy and write letters and telegrams to the Republican United States Senators urging them to pass the anti-lynching bill before this session of the Senate adjourns," Mr. Dyer continued.

James Weldon Johnson, in referring to Mr. Dyer's statement, said: "I want to back up as strongly as I can what Mr. Dyer says. We have had much loyal support from colored people throughout the country, but it has not been as great and united as it should be. We are facing a most critical situation on the Dyer Bill. Having been reported out by the Senate Judiciary Committee, it is up to us to show the Senate the bill must be passed before this session of the Senate adjourns. We must all work to have the anti-lynching bill brought to a vote **before the November elections.** We must keep the wires hot until the bill is passed."

CLUB WOMEN ASK LODGE TO PUSH THE DYER BILL

Preston News Service

Washington, D. C. August 29—A delegation representing the Northeastern Federation of Colored Women's clubs called on Senator Cabot Lodge and urged him to lend his full aid and ability in the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill.

Commenting on the visit of the Women's clubs delegation and the delegation from the Negro Press Association which called on Senator Lodge and President Harding respectively the Arkansas Gazette says:

Why Lynching Should Be Put Down

"The delegation of Negro men and women called on President Harding and several members of congress last Monday to urge the passage of the Dyer Anti-lynching bill. A spokesman for the delegation said it had been given assurance that the Dyer bill would be passed as soon as consideration of the tariff and bonus measures is completed.

"The Dyer anti-lynching bill, in the opinion of leading Republican and Democratic members of the Senate, is unconstitutional. It is a political bill introduced by a Missouri congressman whose political future is in the hands of Negro voters. It will not put down lynching, nor decrease the number of lynchings. The bill will be fought bitterly by Southern members of Congress, but mobs in the South or elsewhere that commit the crime of lynching can make the fight of the Southerners more difficult.

"This, however, is not the reason lynching should be put down. Lynching should be put down because it is an atrocious and cowardly crime, because it has proven to be a crime breeder instead of a crime deterrent, and because it disgraces the entire country."

The committee calling on Senator Lodge was composed of Mrs. Cravath Simpson, Mrs. M. T. Wright, Mrs. Eva M. Bernard, Mrs. M. E. Gardner, Mrs Susie Gunthrop, Mrs. Rosa Brown, Mrs Lee Jones, Mrs. Mary Luck, Mrs. H. Skidmore, Mrs. E. Calloway, Mrs. M. Madre Marshall, Miss Ella Wilson, Mrs. Julia M. Layton, Mrs. Susie Amos, Mrs. Gabrille Pelham, Mrs. Harriet Taylor, Miss Bertie Dunbar, Mrs. Esther Bradley, Mrs. Hattie Bishop, Mrs. Mamie Ross, Mrs. Martha Webb, Miss Flossie Freeman, Mrs. M. Lynch, Mrs. C. A. Bell, Mrs. Edith Shade and Miss Elizabeth C. Carder

A motion was passed by the federation that a daily newspaper be published under the supervision of Miss Genevieve M. Ruben, a member of the National Negro Press Association place for publication to be determined later.

Miss Hallie Q. Brown, president of the National Association of Women's Federation of Clubs was present and delivered a splendid address on "The Vision of The Colored Woman."

BEVERIDGE ENDORSES ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Pledges His Aid And Says Most Thorough Measure Should Be Adopted To Stop Mobs.

St. Louis Argus

NEW YORK, August 29—(Special) "The crime of lynching is so atrocious and so subversive of the fundamental principles of government that the most thorough measures should be adopted to prevent it. Nothing has thus far been presented that is more effective than the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. Many times during my primary campaign I publicly declared my support of the Dyer Bill. I do not see how any citizen who believes in law and order can take any other stand."

Thus Albert J. Beveridge, former United States Senator from Indiana and recent winner over Senator Harry S. New in the Indiana primary for the Republican nomination for Senator, declared his stand on the anti-lynching bill in a letter made public by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored people. The letter was written at the request of a number of prominent citizens of Indiana, who made the request because of the strenuous efforts now being made to secure a vote on the measure during this session of Congress. The bill, after being passed in January by the House by a vote of 230 to 119, was finally reported out favorably on July 28 by the Senate Judiciary Committee and is awaiting final action on the floor of the Senate.

Mr. Beveridge further pledged to the Advancement Association his aid in "the efforts of your Association to end the uncivilized practice of lynching. In this most worthy enterprise I wish

you every possible success and am glad to express to you my heartiest support."

MASONS PASS STRONG RESOLUTIONS ENDORSING ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

St. Louis Argus

High Official At International Conference Ask Senate To Pass Measure Without Delay.

NEW YORK, August 29—(Special) At the International Conference of the Grand Masters, Past Grand Masters, Grand Secretaries, etc. Prince Hall Masons of the United States representing some 150,000 Masons, at their meeting in Washington, D. C. on August 8 passed strong resolutions calling on the United States Senate to pass without delay the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill to "correct certain abuses and barbarous treatment meted out to the citizens of this Republic," according to an announcement made by the Naional Assocation for the Advancement of Colored People. The resolutions called upon the Senate to take this step not only to end the disgrace of mob violence but to remove this blot from the name of America, because "in foreign countries, the belief is common the United States government is indifferent to punish the evil doers and we regret that the reports on lynchings will tend to lower the respect and esteem which the nation enjoys."

The resolutions were signed by E. H. Holmes, Grand Master of the State of Washington; H. I. Monroe, Grand Master of Kansas; and A. A. Schomburg, Grand Secretary, who composed the Committee on Resolutions. Copies of the resolutions have been forwarded to Calvin Coolidge, Presiding Officers of the Senate; Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts, Republican Leader; and Samuel M. Shortridge of California, who is to lead the fight to pass the Dyer Bill.

DYER'S BILL TURNED DOWN BY PRESIDENT

In Favor of Measure to Give Foreigners Protection in This Country

Chicago Defender 9-2-22

Washington, D. C., Sept. 1.—President Warren Gamaliel Harding at the last minute knocked all the wind out of the bag of hope that the entire country has held for the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. It is the opinion of the President of the United States that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional and that the Kellogg bill, designed to protect aliens, foreigners, in the same manner that the anti-lynching bill would protect Americans, should be considered by the Senate to the exclusion of the latter measure.

Would Sign It

Some time ago the President declared, according to Representative Martin Madden of Chicago, that in the event the Dyer bill was passed he would sign it. He says the same thing now. If it passes the Senate he is willing to affix his signature and allow the supreme court to pass upon its validity. But now he, in the face of his party and personal promises, joins the ranks of those who have opposed the measure and thereby encouraged mob activities in various parts of the country, by lending the weight of his high influence. Those who have been undecided will now follow the path marked out by the President.

His views became known at a meeting Thursday, where the President with members of the Senate gathered to decide on the Senate calendar for the remainder of the term, following the tariff and the bonus bills. It was recommended to him that the two bills, very much alike in form, be combined for Senate consideration. It was known from the President's special message recently that the alien protection bill, as the Kellogg measure is called, was his pet.

Although there is little likelihood of it being passed, due principally to the objection of California senators who see in it an abrogation of California's time-honored methods in dealing with oriental immigration, the President was adamant against it being combined with the Dyer bill. He gave the impression that his mind had been made up after consultation with the chiefs of the department of justice and that he would not change.

The Herrin Massacre

The Herrin, Ill., massacre of foreign citizens is said to be responsible for the official anxiety concerning the protection of aliens. Already Mexico has protested because of the killing of two Mexicans. It is held that the federal government would have the constitutional right, due to certain treaty making provisions, to protect foreigners in the several states, but that it is unconstitutional to protect Americans in the different states, no matter what happens to them. That is one of the tragedies of American citizenship.

This single act seems to have reduced to nothing all the work done by Race organizations, the press and individuals throughout the country to blot out the crime of lynching by securing the Dyer bill passage. With it not passed this sesion there is little hope for it later. The President has killed the bill and the chances of a number of senators for re-election.

Athletes and the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill

New York News 9-2-22

In last week's issue of this paper Congressman Dyer of Missouri, father of the Anti-Lynching bill, stated that, if the colored people of the North would throw themselves vigorously into the fight, this bill would be passed. In other words, the colored people of the North lack "pep" for the fight.

I am taking this opportunity to ask you young athletes if he means you when he makes this statement. How do you know? That is easy enough to answer. What have you done to help bring about the passing of this bill, which really has as much to do with you as any Negro in the South land? Have you contributed financially to this great cause? Have you taken a few spare moments, of which most of us have too many, to write your senator how you desire him to vote when it comes up for passage? If you can answer "Yes" to these questions, then you have done well; but you can still do more. If you have not been able to answer "Yes," there is still time to do so. The News will establish a Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill honor roll on its sport sheets and the name of every athlete or any one, in fact, that will subscribe or write to his senator in behalf of the cause will have his name enrolled thereon. Who'll be the first? A copy of the letter you send to your senator, addressed to Sporting Editor, New York News, 135 West 135th street, New York City, will be appreciated.

Wake up, athletes!

Negroes to Oppose Representative Parker

Pittsburgh Courier 9-1-22

(By The Associated Negro Press)

NEWARK, N. J., Sept. 1.—Pointing out that R. Wayne Parker, Congressman from this Congressional District of New Jersey, was the only New Jersey Congressman who voted against the Dyer Bill when it was passed by the House of Representatives by a vote of 230 to 119. A letter has been sent to colored voters to do everything in their power to defeat Mr. Parker, who is a candidate for re-election. In the letter it was pointed out that the Dyer Bill has given colored voters a clear-cut issue on which to determine who are the friends and who are the enemies of the Negro in the lower House of Congress and emphasized that unless the threats of colored voters, made when the Dyer Bill was being debated in the House of Representatives, to defeat every congressman who voted against the bill, if it lay within their power, that colored voters might as well keep their mouths shut in the future unless men like Mr. Parker were defeated.

Arkansas Press And The Dyer Bill.

The Dallas Express 9-9-22

The Southern press can with few exceptions be relied upon to allow the partisan spirit to express itself instead of the real fair American spirit which boldly frowns down upon and openly expresses its opposition to practices which are destructive and degrading.

The exceptions to this rule are welcomed by all who love the spirit which has made Americans great. For that reason the Express is pleased to reproduce from the Little Rock (Ark.) Gazette of August 16, the following editorial which appeared under the caption "Why Lynching Should be Put Down:

"A delegation of Negro women called on President Harding and on several Republican members of Congress last Monday to urge the passage of the Dyer anti-lynching bill. A spokesman for the delegation said it had been given assurance that the Dyer bill would be passed as soon as consideration of the tariff and bous measures is completed.

The Dyer anti-lynching bill, in the opinion of leading Republican members of the Senate, is unconstitutional. It is a political bill introduced for political purposes by a Missouri congressman whose political future is in the hands of Negro voters. It will not put down lynching, nor decrease the number of lynchings. The bill will be fought bitterly by Southern members of Congress, but mobs in the South or elsewhere that commit the crime of lynching can make the fight of the Southerners more difficult.

This, however, is not the reason lynching should be put down. Lynching should be put down because it is an atrocious and cowardly crime, because it has been proven to be a crime breeder instead of a crime deterrent, and because it disgraces the entire country."

Ingersoll On Federal Control For Lynching

New York Age 9-16-22

Col. Robert G. Ingersoll, distinguished lawyer, noted as a free thinker on religious subjects, was also one of America's strongest and most active supporters of manhood rights for all, without regard to race, color or condition. No cause needing support or worthy charity needing assistance was ever neglected or ignored by Col. Ingersoll.

Forty-six years ago, Col. Ingersoll, speaking of the right of the government to protect its citizens, uttered the following potent sentiment:

"I stand by the courts. I stand by the President who endeavors to preserve the peace. I am against mobs; I am against lynchings; and I believe it is the duty of the Federal government to protect all of its citizens at home and abroad, and I want a government powerful enough to say to the Governor of any state where they are murdering American citizens without process of law—I want the Federal government to say to the Governor of that state: 'Stop; stop shedding the blood of American citizens. And if you cannot stop it we can.'"

Lynchings – 1922.
Legislation
1686

Mob Violence.

AUSTIN TEXAS STATESMAN
SEPTEMBER 2, 1922

The San Antonio Express, a consistent advocate of the Dyer anti-lynching bill now pending in the Senate, commenting on the mob violence at Electra following the arrest of a negro charged with criminal assault upon a white woman, denounces what it terms "a familiar quack 'cure' for a foul disease which is itself no less foul." This "cure" says the Express, "applied in East St. Louis, did not prevent a related epidemic soon thereafter in Washington. Then, Chicago's outbreak was piled upon Washington's, and Tulsa's upon Chicago's. Broadly considered—the much-vaunted motive considered—the lynching or race-rioting mob is as impotent to fulfill its purpose as it is, itself, criminal. The murder and incendiarism, home-wrecking and driving out that it does have no result of even lessening, let alone stopping, the crimes, against which it affects to proceed."

In voicing the supposition that lynchings or riots which result from crimes of blacks against white women have behind them a more or less deliberate remedial purpose, a "much vaunted motive" of prevention, the Express makes clear that it does not understand the subject which it attempts to discuss.

Such mob violence is instinctive. It is, in effect, a recognition that the crime which provokes it amounts to a covert attack upon a whole race. It is a reaction to a profound shock. The whites, insulted and angered, mete out summary punishment for an offense which springs from the deepest race hatred.

We never will solve this problem by blinding ourselves to its nature. We never will solve it by hurling the charge of race hatred at the white mob, while refusing to see that the offense which provokes the mob's action is an expression of the final and most savage degree of race hatred.

Interference of outsiders between whites and blacks in the South, such as is proposed in the Dyer bill, can only intensify antagonisms and encourage strife. The serious race riots in the North were not unconnected with the special consideration given negroes by Northern politicians. Officials hesitated to deal with the disorders in their incipiency, fearing to offend the blacks. In Texas, such radical propaganda as that which stirred the Northern blacks was checked as soon as it appeared, and, though we have had some race clashes, a great many more have been averted.

National (Dyer Bill)

Next to the removal of the cause, so far as this may be possible, of race disturbances, should be the prevention of their spread, through the speeding up of legal processes in cases of criminal assault by blacks upon white. The law's delay in such cases, which, the simplest person recognizes, as extraordinary, has often ministered to disorder.

The bringing in of the Federal government, as the special friend of the negro, and his protector against his white neighbor, and the proposal to punish whole communities after mob violence has been committed—both ingrediants of the Dyer bill—are measures plans addressed to effect instead of to cause. The probable result of their adoption would be to encourage disrespect for law and postpone to the distant future a solution of the problem of mob violence.

Dyer Bill is Indorsed by Missouri State Convention

Atlanta Independent 9/21/22

New York, Sept. 20.—The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People today gave out the following telegram received from Mr. B. F. Bowles, of Jefferson City, Misouri:

"State Republican Convention endorses Dyer Bill and asks its immediate enactment."

In its campaign to have each Republican State Convention endorse the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill and urge upon Congress its prompt enactment, the national office of the Advancement Association wrote to Mr. Bowles. Mr. Bowles at once took active steps which resulted in the endorsement of the bill by the Missouri State Republican Convention.

Up to the present time the following state conventions have taken similar action: Indiana, Colorado, West Virginia and Ohio.

The Association is still endeavoring to have other states act.

Mr. Bowles is a member of the Missouri Constitutional Convention.

ANTI-LYNCHING ACT LOSES FRIENDS IN NORTHERN STATES

The Times Picayune 9/23/22

Exodus of Negroes to Big Cities Brings Change in Sentiment

BY PAUL WOOTON
(Times-Picayune Staff Representative)

Washington, Sept. 24.—Failure on the part of the Senate to take up the anti-lynching bill after it had been specified as "must" legislation by the steering committee was due, in part, to the increasing recognition on the part of senators from Northern and Eastern states that the race problem is moving northward.

Drastic restriction of immigration has so reduced the supply of common and semi-skilled labor from foreign countries that the industrial sections of the country are being forced to resort more and more to the employment of negroes from the South. The die West as it is in Southern states. constitutes the only remaining large block of raw material from which the industries of the North can draw their requirements of the relatively cheaper labor.

Exodus in Full Swing.

The exdous of negroes from the South, which marked the war period, has begun again, it is stated officially. The movement is expected to increase in volume as the economic cycle swings back toward prosperity. This means the race problem in the course of a few years will become almost as acute in the East and Middle West as it is in Southern state. The problem already has manifested itself to such a degree as to have aroused several efforts to evolve a plan whereby negroes will not hold the balance of political power in certain industrial centers. With the exception of the race problem to the North and East there is more general recognition that a law, which could extend little additional protection to negroes and which certainly would have a physical influence on many negroes and calculated to increase the difficulties and troubles of their race, would be unwise.

Pressure Was Political.

The pressure behind the anti-lynching bill from its inception has sprung from a desire to use it as political capital. Some of the Republicans were determined that a spectacular effort be made to put the bill through the Senate before adjournment. They knew there was no chance to pass it as the Democrats were prepared to delay adjournment indefinitely in their determination to talk the bill to death. To have pressed the legislation would have forced the Democrats to resort to a filibuster. A filibuster was the desire of some Republicans. This would have been an attractive bid not only for the negro vote in the North but for those of his fanatical friends—an element, however, in the North's population which is shrinking rapidly.

The determination of the Democrats to fight the anti-lynching bill does not mean that they condone that crime. It is probable that no member of the Senate would attempt to justify it. Most of the Democrats and some of the Republicans oppose the measure on the ground that it is an unconstitutional encroachment on the police powers of the state, that it would greatly increase the friction between races and that it could not be enforced.

* * * *

The Navy Day project is meeting a cordial response from the country. Governor Warren T. McCray of Indiana, Governor Albert C. Ritchie of Maryland, Governor William C. Sproule of Pennsylvania, Governor W. H. McMaster of South Dakota, Governor Alf A. Taylor of Tennessee and Governor E. Lee Trinkle of Virginia have consented to sponsor Navy Day and issue statements to the people of their respective states on October 27. No governor has declined and favorable replies come in each day.

The day will be a holiday in the navy. American naval merchant ships in all ports of the world will be decorated. The following shipping companies have agreed to decorate their ships and co-operate in the fullest manner:

Alaska Steamship Company, Baltimore Steamship Company, Clyde Steamship Company, Freeport Sulphur Transportation Company, International Mercantile Marine Company, C. D. Mallory & Company, Inc., Merchants' and Miners' Transportation Company, Mexican Petroleum Company, Potter Steamship Company, Inc., Sinclair Navigation Company, Southern Pacific Company, Standard Oil Company, Marine Department, S. O. Stray Steamship Corporation, Swedish-American Line, Terminal Shipping Company, United States Shipping Board Emergency Fleet Corporation, United States Steel Products Company and Union Petroleum Steamship Company.

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ANOTHER STEP ON THE DYER BILL.

Last week another forward step was taken on the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. The Senate Steering Committee met and decided to place the Bill on the Legislative Program for the present session. This step is an extremely important one.

New York Age 9/9/22

Those who are familiar with legislative action need not be told that a bill may be introduced and passed through the committee to which it is referred, and be placed upon the calendar; but many a bill that has been placed on the calendar has died there, because it has not been reached before the adjournment of the legislative body. It is here that the Steering Committee comes into play; it is the Steering Committee that looks over all of the measures on the calendar and decides which ones are to be given prompt attention. The measures thus selected are the ones that reach the point of being voted on.

When the Anti-Lynching Bill was in the House of Representatives, the Steering Committee of that body was induced to make the measure a special order of business. It was for that reason that it was considered and passed early in the year. If the Steering Committee had not given the Bill right of way, it is most likely that it would still have been waiting on the House calendar.

The action of the Senate Steering Committee is designed to give the Anti-Lynching Bill consideration before the close of the present session. There will, of course, be obstacles to be overcome. The Southern senators, without doubt, will organize a filibuster and do everything in their power to prevent haveing the Bill brought up; but it is up to the Republican majority to circumvent such tactics. Bringing the up at this session places it in a strong, strategic position, because, even if it is not finally disposed of in this session, it will remain as unfinished business for the short session; and, even if the Southern senators, all the way from Virginia to Texas, filibuster by talking on the Bill, they can hardly keep it from December to the fourth of March.

But friends of the Bill, and especially the colored people who are more vitally interested than anybody else, should not trust to what might happen in the next session but should use every power at their command to have the Bill passed before the Senate adjourns.

Dyer Credits Negroes For Anti-Lynching Bill

PEORIA ILL TRANSCRIPT
SEPTEMBER 23, 1922

"The anti-lynching bill has gone through the congress of the United States as far as it has, is due to the efforts of the colored people, 90 per cent of the credit being due to the National Association for the Advancement and Protection of the Colored People," said Congressman L. C. Dyer, of St. Louis, serving the 12th District of Missouri in the house who spoke before a mass meeting last night in the Majestic Theater.

"Furthermore it is the colored of the northern states who are permitted to hold meetings that are responsible for the success so far of the bill." "He said, in Texas, thousands of colored people can only pray secretly that the bill will pass and stop this rampant evil which is placing a blot on the country.

Praises G. O. P.

"The anti-lynching bill was written into the platform on which the republican party elected Mr. Harding. The republican party is the only party fit to govern or make laws. No anti-lynching bill will ever be passed by southern congressmen or senators and most of these are democrats. However, we republicans must stay on the job and you voters must make your representatives stay on the job."

Congressman Dyer was introduced by W. E. Hull, republican candidate for congress from the 16th district. Mr. Hull stated that he was sorry he was not in congress to vote for the anti-lynching bill. He spoke of the splendid service rendered by the negroes during the World War and of the great men who have arisen from their ranks.

Senator John Dailey presided as chairman and introduced the mayor, former mayor E. N. Woodruff, and various candidates for public offices.

HARDING PUMPS LIFE INTO "LYNCHING BILL"

Will Include It in Call for Extra Session.

TO CONVENE NOVEMBER 29

Pledges to Negro Voters, in Order to Save Lodge and Others, Cause for President's Action—Ship Subsidy Also an Item for Session

Memphis Tenn. Commercial Appeal 10/13/22

BY CHAS. MICHELSON.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 12.—Congress is to be convened in extraordinary session on Nov. 29. President Harding will issue the call immediately after election. He means to drive the ship subsidy bill through, and while the House is wrestling with that the Senate will be expected to put the anti-lynching bill over.

The calling up of the latter measure comes as a complete, and not particularly pleasant surprise to the average legislator, who is as skiddish about this as about the ship subsidy. But for the sake of the negro vote in Ohio and other northern states certain pledges were made and it is the intention to redeem these pledges as soon as possible.

To Avoid Another Call.

The chief purpose of the president in bringing the Senate and House together before the regular date for the winter session, is to avoid a similar extraordinary gathering after the next fourth of March. Mr. Harding desires the people and the national legislature to have a good, long rest. He seeks one himself and looks forward to visiting Alaska and possibly the Hawaiian Islands.

It is figured that the House can dispose of the ship subsidy measure in two weeks or less. With rum in all forms excluded from American shipping, it is held that the bill can be passed in both branches of Congress, despite the hostility heretofore indicated.

It is known that the Daugherty ruling will not bring in all of the "dry" votes, though that was the hope. Numerous members of the House from the middle and far west are unalterably opposed to all forms of subsidy and will continue to oppose the proposed legislation without reference to the rum feature involved.

A long and bitter fight will be waged against the subsidy in the Senate. It is admitted that not more than three Democrats will support it, leaving 33 to vote against it. The co-operation of 16 Republicans would become necessary to make the opposition effective.

Anti-Lynching Bill.

The anti-lynching bill was passed the House under the impression that it would be killed in the Senate. A distinct understanding to that effect existed. Later, Lodge discovered it necessary to do something to save himself up in Massachusetts. So the bill was favorably reported. But when it was allowed to die the negro voters began preparations to swamp Republican candidates in states where they are a controlling factor. Even Lodge was menaced, although previously indorsed by the negro voters in Massachusetts.

It became necessary for the Republican leaders to give positive pledges that the Dyer measure should be debated and brought to a vote early in the next session of Congress. With this promise they hope to hold the negro voters in line until after November 7.

TOPEKA KAN CAPITAL
SEPTEMBER 19, 1922

TO STAMP OUT LYNCH LAW

The Senate steering committee placed the Dyer anti-lynching bill in a privileged position and it is likely to become law before adjournment of Congress. The intent of the bill is good, tho its constitutionality is doubted. It deals with a black chapter of American civilization. For a full generation lynch law has taken an annual toll of more than 100 human lives, or of 3,424 recorded mob murders in 33 years.

Oklahoma, which has had nearly 100 lynchings since it became a state, cast 5 votes in Congress against this bill to check the practice. Georgia with 429 lynchings to its discredit cast its entire vote to continue the same old shameful story. But Kansas, with a record in 33 years of 24 lynchings, a darker record than that of any Northern state west of the Missouri river except California and Wyoming, threw its total vote in Congress in behalf of this bill penalizing the state for non-protection of human life. There have been three times as many lynchings in Kansas as in Iowa.

It is creditable to New England that this group of six states has had but one lynch party in a generation, that occurring in Maine. But New York has had only three and Pennsylvania four, Wisconsin and Michigan have the same record as Pennsylvania. Nearly 90 per cent of all crimes of lynch law occur in the 16 Southern states, Georgia being the prime offender, with Mississippi a close second and Texas third. Outside of the South the West is the zone of mob and lynch law, the East being relatively free of the practice. But to the honor of the West, only 10 of its members of Congress voted against the bill to stamp out lynch law.

Lynchings- 1922
Legislation. 1089

National (Dyer Bill).

BOSTON MASS C S MONITOR
JUNE 14. 1922

Mr. Borah and State Rights

SENATOR BORAH has the admirable faculty of defending his position by convincing logic. Oftener right than wrong on the vital questions that present themselves for solution, he is inclined to approach the subject under discussion with courage and candor. It is thus that he has dealt with the question of state rights as that perplexing problem is viewed in the light of history and experience in the United States in questioning the constitutionality of the anti-lynching bill now before the Senate. The measure has passed the House of Representatives, where it was analyzed under the criticism of its opponents, chiefly members from the southern states, in which the tendency always has been to assert the rights of the individual commonwealths as against those asserted or claimed by the general government.

The Idaho Senator does not seek to minimize the need of just such regulatory legislation as that proposed in the Dyer bill, as it is called, the designation being from the name of its author, a Republican Representative from the State of Missouri. Indeed Senator Borah recognizes the need, just as he recognizes the need of a federal law regulating or prohibiting child labor in mills and factories. But he sees the same difficulty in the way of both such enactments, and that is the present impossibility of overcoming, by mere congressional action, the apparent inhibitions interposed by the Constitution.

As has previously been pointed out in a discussion of the Dyer bill, the measure does seek to authorize an extension of the federal police power somewhat beyond any limit heretofore approached, though for purposes which it is claimed are entirely within the purview or scope of the Fourteenth Amendment, which provides that no state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. It has been insisted that in the case of the Dyer anti-lynching bill the purpose is not to force new and undesired enactments upon the states, but to fortify or supplement the state police power in an effort to put an end to abuses of the laws already existing in the states. It is not argued that the people of any commonwealth or of any community desire to see present abuses perpetuated. No civilized people believe that they have the right to lynch violators of the law at will or when passion happens to rule the mob.

But in the case of the proposed anti-lynching law as in the case of the law prohibiting the employment of children in certain occupations, the specter of centralization interposes itself and inspires obstruction and jealousy. The people of the south, conformably to a fixed tradition, stand now, as they have long stood, against any extension of the federal power. But the important thing to be realized now is that the right involved, and the right which is questioned, is a human right, rather than a sectional or state prerogative. Generally speaking, there is no tendency to defend lynchings, any more than there is a desire to defend the employment of children in harmful occupations. No mere technicality should be allowed to stand in the way of the enforcement of the expressed desires of the people in this regard.

What, then, is the solution? Where is the way out of the difficulty? The highest court of the land has found it impossible, because of the constitutional provisions referred to, to uphold the validity of a federal child-labor law. Despite the apparent willingness of the anti-lynching bill's advocates to put the proposed enactment to the test, it may be that the Supreme Court would find itself bound to set aside such a law for the same reasons, whatever the desire might be to sustain it. If such an outcome is a reasonable probability, the wise course is to provide against it by amending the Constitution. That process has been found to be not at all difficult, where the consensus of public opinion favors the change. There is little doubt that the majority of the states, the necessary three-fourths required to ratify such an amendment, would vote in favor of the changes, which might be embraced in a single clause. The people of no state, it may reasonably be presumed, would care to go on record as opposing such vital reforms. No state can claim any right paramount to the right of society

LOOK TO YOUR SENATORS!

Houston Informer
11-15-22

By WILLIAM PICKENS
(For the Associated Negro Press)

The anti-lynching bill has been reported out favorably by the senate committee on the judiciary, with the exception, of course, of the democrats and Borah.

Now it is up to you and your two senators. There should not now be a Negro in any state, with the possible exception of the Southern states, who will not write his senators about this matter,—and Negroes of the South should also write. Just as many Negro voters, men and women, as there are in these United States—just twice that many letters should be written to the United States senate—at least. For each voter should write a letter to at least two senators. Write as many letters as you have hands, or send telegrams. Then count your fingers and write other people's senators and other influential members of the national government.

Get your governor, your mayor, your big citizen to write.

Pay no attention to the assertion, from white or black, that the senate is merely playing politics and that they expect the Supreme Court to destroy the law after it is made. That is a part of the strategy of the enemy to destroy hope and pep in you. They said a similar thing when the bill was about to be voted on in the lower house —that the house was about to pass it merely for political reasons and that Dyer and other members of the house expected and hoped that it would be killed in senate committee. Nay, worse still—when Dyer was introducing the bill, years ago, they then said that he was merely playing politics and that he did not expect the house to seriously consider the proposition—that he was merely pleasing his Negro voters.

What will they say, if it passes the senate and if the Supreme Court sustains it? Why, then, they will say that "the juries are not expected to uphold it."

What we want now is this LAW. We will cross the Supreme Court bridge and each separate little jury bridge when we get to it.

The next point of attack for the group is on the entire senate, and your first move is upon your senators.

HON. WM. CABELL BRUCE DENOUNCES MOB LAW IN SCATHING TERMS

Afro-American
1089

Says Dyer Bill Is Merely A Sop To Colored Voters In Coming Election

9/22/2.

Mr. Henry F. Arnold,
The AFRO-AMERICAN CO.
Baltimore, Md.

Dear Sir:—

Yours of the 16th inst. to hand, and I return herewith the newspaper copy which you enclose of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. I abhor lynching, and deem it a practice utterly unworthy of any civilized people. Indeed, in my opinion, the blackest and foulest spots upon our American civilization are the mutilations and burnings with which some of the victims of mob ferocity have been visited at times. Often have I said, in recent years, that, in my opinion, one of the noblest chapters in the history of the commonwealth of Virginia ,is the fearless use that it has made of even the military power of the State, to see that very person within its limits, white or colored, was protected against mob violence and had a fair trial. However, I cannot express my approval of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, because I agree with the members of Congress who held it to be a plainly unconstitutional measure. Indeed, it is so plainly unconstitutional that I strongly suspect that it was intended by most of the members of the House, who voted for it, as a mere sop to the colored vote in the coming election.

Very trurly yours,
WM. CABELL BRUCE.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

It Is Ably Drawn and Should Be Held Constitutional by Supreme Court

New York Times
7-2-22.

New York, June 15, 1922.

To the Editor of The New York Times:

Recent discussion of the obvious need for Federal anti-lynching legislation, or an amendment to the Constitution to make it possible, has centred about the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, enacted last Jan. 26 by a 230 to 119 vote in the House of Representatives and now before the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate. The wide distribution of Senator Borah's statement that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional prompts me to offer in opposition to it a summary from one of a number of briefs submitted to the Judiciary Committee sustaining the bill's constitutionality. The brief in question has been submitted by Herbert K. Stockton of Haight, Smith, Griffin & Deming of New York City.

Mr. Stockton contends: (1) That the States do not give the equal protection of the laws provided for in the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution "a fact susceptible of overwhelmingly convincing demonstration." (2) "Inequality in administration is a denial of equal protection of the laws." Of such inequality Justice Brewer said: "Such an actual discrimination is as potential in creating a denial of equality of rights as a discrimination made by law." (3) "In forcing the State to afford the equal protection of the laws the Federal Government can act directly upon such individuals as are the agents of the State and whose act or neglect constitutes the denial by the State of the equal protection." (4) The provisions of the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill are within the scope of decisions cited.

I should like to quote from the letter in which Mr. Stockton transmitted his argument to the Judiciary Committee:

"I urge upon you the conclusion that you should not refuse to force this bill out of committee and urge its passage with all the power at your command, merely because neither you nor I can guarantee that the Supreme Court is going to take the view of this bill that I have set forth above. The bill is very ably drawn. It is probably the best bill than can be framed under the peculiarly artificial restrictions of our Constitution. It ought to be held constitutional by the Supreme Court. I think it is entirely true to say that the Court can hold the bill constitutional on sound reasoning if it wants to. This is a case therefore where the problem ought to be put squarely up to the Court: it is not a case of passing the responsibility to the Court because the Legislature does not want to incur the popular odium of refusing the remedial statute. * * * Even if the Court should make vain your efforts it is tremendously important that the most representative body in the world should go on record as opposing lynching and desiring to stamp it out. At least the lyncher will no longer be able to say that the toleration he and his neighbors feel for his bloody sport exists also in a Congress which raises no protesting voice."

Senator Borah not only had this brief in his possession when he spoke, but he also had briefs by Moorfield Storey, formerly President of the American Bar Association; by William H. Lewis, formerly Assistant United States Attorney General, and other eminent lawyers. Furthermore the Senator had seen a petition to the United States Senate urging the prompt enactment of the Dyer bill, signed by a large group of jurists which included Justices of the highest courts of various States. For Senator Borah, under the circumstances, to attempt to give the impression that those who want the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill passed are in effect urging Senators to "lynch the Constitution," is nothing short of disingenuous.

Those who deny warrant in the Constitution for the Federal Government to protect its citizens within its own borders when accused of crime, against trial and execution by the mob rather than by due process of law are not looking at the Constitution itself, but are lost in a maze of judicial decisions on the case of the Fourteenth Amendment, decisions which, in the press purpose of modifying, limiting and even nullifying that amendment.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

WASHINGTON D. C. STAR
JULY 4, 1922

The Anti-Lynching Bill.

The Senate judiciary committee has after months of delay, finally reported out the Dyer anti-lynching bill. Born under stormy auspices in the lower house, the bill, since its progress to the north wing of the Capitol, has been treated with scant consideration. There are those who claim that the tardy recognition now accorded it has only been granted in the assurance that, owing to the pressure of other legislation, it cannot be passed at this session. There are others who assert that such support as the bill has been able to command in the Senate has only been vouchsafed as a political expedient in the conviction that the bill is ultimately to be pronounced unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

The Star adheres to neither of these beliefs. The fight for and against the bill, waged principally behind the scenes, has been conducted on the normal lines of state versus federal rights. It will ultimately be won or lost depending upon whether Congress, believing the states or certain thereof to be unable to cope with the monstrous evil of lynching, desires to place in the hands of the federal courts an effective means of coping with a most pressing need and vital problem, or does not so desire.

It is difficult in the light of existing facts to understand what must be recognized as senatorial hesitancy vigorously to meet the situation. Surely the Senate is aware that in the eyes of a vast majority of the men and women of America lynching is a hideous and abominable practice, which must be stopped. Surely it knows that the states where lynchings occur, given every opportunity to prove their ability to stamp out that practice, have failed—that in the past six months thirty men have been burned or hung or shot or otherwise done to death by mobs in the name of Judge Lynch. Surely they possess the ability to make whatever changes may be essential to insure the constitutionality of the Dyer bill, to permit stern action by the federal authorities against either lynchers or such state officers as fail to perform their duty in the matter of preventing lynchings.

The insistence upon "state rights" is well enough in its time and place. It has frequently served its useful purpose in curbing what has sometimes been an overeagerness on the part of the federal government for new authority. Yet it cannot be that adherence to a pet theory is to frustrate a step obviously essential to the termination of these ghastly excesses which periodically shock the nation. The Dyer bill, hitherto most casually handled, should promptly be accorded the earnest attention to which it is entitled.

SENATOR BORAH AND NEVAL THOMAS CLASH

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.
7-21-22

D. C. School Teacher and Senator Debate Anti-Lynch Bill Before Big Audience

Washington, D. C. July 20—Senator Borah addressed a large mass-meeting of colored people at the A. M. E. Zion church in South Washington on "The Unconstitutionality of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill". He expressed his surprise at being asked to address a colored audience since the entire race knows of his opposition to the measure that is so near the Negro heart.

Senator Borah congratulated the race on its judicial attitude in wanting to hear all sides of the question. He defended his position with a long array of judicial precedents, and said that he would violate his oath as a Senator if he voted for a bill which he believed to be unconstitutional. He said that one sovereignty could not impose a fine upon another, and that State pride would resist every effort to impose such penalty by the national government, thus leaving the Negro as defenseless as he is now.

Replying from the floor Neval Thomas a local school teacher said:

"No man living knows whether his law is constitutional or not. The distinguished Senator is likewise distinguished as a lawyer, but over and against his learned opinion is the learned opinion of Moorefield Storey, than whom there is no greater lawyer in the world, and that of the Attorney General of the United States.

"The Supreme Court, in all probability, will divide on it, as it does in so many of the great questions it is called upon to decide. One learned member of this great tribunal once said, "The only reason we are right is because we get the last guess'. The laws are voluminous and indefinite. "There is no fixed judicial science" as the Nation puts it. Often a most vital question is decided by a five-four vote, five learned judges saying the law is one thing and four equally learned judges saying it is another.

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL REPORTED IN SENATE

Approval Is Filed, but Belief Is That Measure Will Stay On Calendar Indefinitely.

MANY MEMBERS CRITICAL

New York Times
7-29-22

Democrats See Political Move, Partly for Lodge's Benefit—Borah Holds It Is Unconstitutional.

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, July 28.—An unsigned report which informs the Senate that the Committee on Judiciary recommends the passage of the so-called Dyer Anti-lynching bill was filed in the Senate today by Senator Shortridge of California. The bill, which comes to the Senate in a slightly amended form, is, according to the report, constitutional and should pass.

Although the report does not so state, this is not the unanimous opinion of the committee. All the Democratic members and at least one Republican, Senator Borah, are convinced that it is within the Constitution, and it is common talk in the Senate that some of the Republicans who voted to report the bill out also are inclined to take that view of the matter.

The Democrats do not hesitate to charge that the bill is a political move to solidify the negro vote for the Republicans, particularly in Massachusetts, where Senator Lodge is up for re-election. The Massachusetts Senator, though not a member of the committee, used all the influence he could command to have the bill acted upon favorably. Although the report asserts that the bill is not sectional, it is noted that the only killings listed occurred in Southern States. There is no mention in the report of the recent massacre of non-union miners in the Herrin, Ill., bituminous coal fields.

It is the general opinion that the bill will stay on the calendar indefinitely. No one expects it to be acted upon at this session, and there are Senators who are of the opinion that the end came today with the filing of the Shortridge report. The fact that no Senator signed the report was commented upon. It was said that the credit for the report must go entirely to the junior Senator from California.

"The committee," the report concludes, "has devoted much time and earnest thought to the consideration of this bill and has reached the conclusion that as amended the bill is constitutional and should pass. That conclusion is reached by different processes of reasoning and by reliance on different provisions of the Constitution, but whatever process of reasoning is adopted or whatever provisions of the Constitution are relied on, we hold that the proposed legislation is 'appropriate legislat on' to cure or prevent the evil of lynching wherever in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof that evil exists or is committed.

"White or black," all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof are citizens of the United States," and no State may, by affirmative legislative, judicial or executive action, or by failure, neglect or refusal to act, deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, or deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

"A careful and dispassionate study of the provisions of this bill as amended will, the committee thinks, convince Senators that it is appropriate legislation, within the competency of Congress to enact, to safeguard and protect those rights to life, liberty and property which are guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.

"The proposed legislation is not and should not be considered in any sense sectional. The evil it is designed to cure is not confined to any particular section of State, North or South, East or West. This monstrous evil, which is a disgrace to the nation, we should strive to wipe out by a firm and just exercise of every legitimate power conferred upon and residing in the Federal Government.

"The proposed legislation is not an invasion or subversion of the rights of the States, nor is it designed to relieve the States from the performance of their duty to secure to all persons within their several jurisdictions equal protection of the laws; on the contrary, the proposed legislation is in aid of the several States and will be impartially administered by the people of the several States.

"It is sincerely hoped and confidently believed that the early passage of this bill as amended will have a salutary effect and go far toward insuring that 'equal protection of the laws.' State and Federal, to which all persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof' are entitled.

"American citizenship is indeed a badge of honor. It should be, and this bill seeks to make it a shield of protection to every American citizen, man, woman and child, native and naturalized, who stands on American soil, hedged round and guarded as they are by the Constitution of the United States."

Senator Borah, it was said today, will within the near future address the Senate on this bill. He will oppose it as unconstitutional. Senator Wadsworth of New York is another Republican Senator who will fight the bill, and it is understood that there are several other who are of the same opinion.

Lynchings — 1922
Legislation.

National. (Dyer Bill)

1090

ANTI-LYNCH BILL REPORT FAVORABLE

But Some Amendments Are Made to House Measure by Senate Judiciary Committee.

Atlanta Constitution 7/1/22

Washington, June 30.—The Dyer anti-lynching bill providing penalties by the federal government for mob action, was reported favorably with amendments by the senate judiciary committee by a vote of 8 to 6. Senators Ashurst, democrat, Arizona and Morris, republican, Nebraska did not vote.

The vote today ended a long committee fight over the bill, which was passed last January by the house and which has been urged by negro and other organizations. Opponents of the measure have declared it an unconstitutional interference with state rights.

Comparatively few changes were made in the original house bill and these were said to be designed to meet the constitutional objections. A subcommittee of the senate committee recently recommended defeat of the bill on the ground that it violated the constitution. Some senators voting today for a favorable report were said to hold doubts regarding its constitutionality but thought the bill should be enacted and put up to the supreme court.

The bill declared that if states fail, neglect, or refuse to maintain protection of life they shall be deemed to have denied the constitutional guarantees and the federal authorities will have power to act by indictment of state officers or members of a mob and trial in the federal courts.

The measure requires "reasonable" efforts by state officers to maintain order and protect prisoners and their failure would subject them to imprisonment for five years and a fine of $5,000. Members of mobs in which a prisoner is put to death would be subject to conviction for conspiracy with imprisonment for five years to life provided. Counties in which fatal mob disorders occur would be liable to the

N. Y. C. JOURNAL
JULY 1, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL REPORTED FAVORABLY

Republican Leaders Force Issue in Judiciary Committee; Lodge Asks Action.

By Universal Service.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—Republican leaders in the Senate have forced the Judiciary Committee to agree to a favorable report on the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill, which would impose heavy penalties upon counties which fail or refuse to prosecute participants in lynching parties.

Although a majority of the Republican members of the committee previously decided the bill to be "unconstitutional and unwise," certain elements within the party organization insisted upon having the bill reported to the Senate in the hope of having it acted upon before the November elections. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, who is a candidate for reelection, made a personal appeal to his friends on the committee to act favorably on the bill, which has been "sleeping" in the committee files ever since it was passed by the House on January 26.

INTRODUCED BY DYER.

The bill was introduced by Representative Dyer, of the St. Louis district, who made its passage a personal issue in the House. It was opposed by the united representation of Southern States and assailed by many other members on the ground of unconstitutionality.

The vote on reorting the bill was 8 to 6, those supporting it being all Republicans, as follows: Dillingham, Vermont; Brandegee, Connecticut; Cummins, Iowa; Ernst, Kentucky; Shortridge, California; Nelson, Minnesota; Colt, Rhode Island; Sterling, South Dakota. Opposed were: Borah, Idaho, Republican, and Culberson, Texas; Overman, North Carolina; Walsh, Montana; Reed, Missouri, and Shields, Tennessee, Democrats. Ashurst, Democrat, of Arizona, and Norris, Republican, of Nebraska, did not vote.

Two amendments to the House bill were adopted by the committee, neither of which essentially changes its provisions. Senator Shortridge was directed to write the committee report to be filed in the Senate.

TRANSFERS JURISDICTION.

In its amended form the bill transfers to the Federal district courts jurisdiction over lynching cases wherever State or county authorities fail or refuse to make diligent efforts to apprehend and prosecute the guilty persons. It provides that whenever there is an outbreak of mob rule, resulting in a lynching, it is an offense against Federal authority, and that if the local officials are recreant in prosecuting the offenders, the district court must and shall intervene and take charge of the prosecution.

In addition to this taking over of authority by the Federal courts, a fine of $10,000 for each person lynched is to be assessed against the county in which the lynching took place, the money to be paid to relatives of the victim, or if there be none to the Federal treasury. If a person is seized in one county and conveyed to another county and there lynched, the county in which he is seized and the county in which the lynching occurs will be jointly liable for payment of the fine.

The recent killing of non-union miners at Herrin, Illinois, was discussed by the committee in its consideration of the bill, it being stated that if the measure now were a law the Federal courts might intervene in the event nothing is done by the State of county authorities to apprehend those responsible for the killings.

N. Y. C. TRIBUNE
JULY 3, 1922

Dethroning Judge Lynch

The House passed the Dyer anti lynching bill many months ago. A sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee frowned on it, however, intimating that its constitutionality was not above suspicion. Lawyers differ on such points, and the House Judiciary Committee had already gone on record as of the opposite opinion. Now the full Senate committee has given the House measure the benefit of the doubt, reporting it out with a slight amendment.

This is a sensible decision. The Dyer bill deserves a trial. If there is any power in the Federal government to stop mob murders and to hold local authorities responsible for failures to prevent mob violence that power ought to be defined and exerted. Lynching is a harking back to barbarism. It is a blot on the civilization which tolerates it. It is also an offense against the fundamental law of the Union, which says that "no state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws."

All citizens of the United States are entitled to equal privileges and immunities within the states. We also make treaties with foreign governments in which we guaranty their nationals the equal protection of our laws. Promising such protection through treaties is an essential national function. But when it comes to making good on the promise the nation finds itself without machinery either to protect or to punish.

1090

This is a pitiful situation for the Federal government to be in. A Federal power to restrain lynchings is therefore a necessary corollary of the treaty-making power.

The Dyer bill is misunderstood if it is interpreted merely as an attempt at meddlesome interference with the administration of their laws by sovereign states. The state is not a sovereign in this matter. It is under pledge to the national government to protect both American citizens and treaty-power foreigners.

From this point of view the Dyer bill closes up a dangerous hiatus. It supplies a new link in the chain of national authority and will spare us from offering inept and humiliating excuses the next time a friendly nation whose citizens have been lynched here asks us why we cannot live up to obligations assumed by us and plainly inherent in national sovereignty.

A SUM IN MATHEMATICS.

Montgomery Advertiser 7-5-22

We invite the attention of such citizens of Illinois as are expert at figures to a little sum in mathematics proposed by the esteemed Charlotte Observer. If the Dyer anti-lynching bill were in operation at this time, says the Observer, "the illustrious State of Illinois would be called upon to cancel a heavy bill of damages, and if the Dyer bill were made retroatice this same illustrious State of Illinois would be driven into involuntary bankruptcy."

Here's how the Observer arrives at its insinuating conclusions: The Dyer bill proposes a fine of $10,000 on each county whose sheriff and deputies allowed a person to be lynched. Figure it out, for yourself.

Pursuing its thought further, the Observer has some hard things to say about Illinois, but since these remarks are just and truthful, as well as timely, we reprint them here:

> For each man who was tied in a bunch and dragged behind an automobile, then shot or clubbed to death by the Illinois mob in the Herrin district; each man hanged to a tree; each man whose body was weighted down and cast into a mill pond, was a man lynched, just as surely as each negro fleeing in the streets of East St. Louis or emerging from burning home was a negro lynched. In Illinois the mob does its work in wholesale manner; it enacts deeds of violence of a character and upon a scale which has had no parallel in any other part of the country, if, indeed, it has parallel in any of the civilized world. In the East St. Louis riots more negroes were lynched in a single day than have been lynched in all other parts of the country put together. Add the Herrin score to that of East St. Louis and it might be possible to indict the state of Illinois with the champion lynching record of the world. And yet it has been customarily the case that the single lynching of a negro in the South for the crime which is the constant menace of womanhood, is cause for the Northern press and the ill-advised leadership of the organization known as the National Association for Advancement of the Colored People to indulge in vicious outbursts of wrath against the South in general, in striking contrast to the silence observed in individual and wholesale cases in the Northern and Western states. They magnify the slaying of a negro in the South and have no remarks to make when negroes are lynched in wholesale lots in East St. Louis, or Chicago, or Denver or in any other section of the country outside the Mason and Dixon line. Moreover, they are silent on the main cause of lynching in the South—an ever present terror which is usually met with the methods of the terrorists. In the case of the lynching negroes in St. Louis, their only offense was that they were working at jobs white men wanted; it was so in Chicago and Denver. In the latest case of developed lawlessness and savagery in Illinois, and offense was that of men having sought and engaged in honest employment, an occupation others spurned because they could not name the price which was to be paid for the labor.

These remarks are respectfully referred to the press of Illinois with the direct assurance from no less an authority than The Advertiser that they are not copyrighted nor are rights reserved.

KNOXVILLE TENN. SENTINEL
JUNE 11, 1922

DAILY EDITORIAL DIGEST

What Editors Elsewhere Say Concerning Timely Topics

The recent epidemic of mob violence against negroes has resulted in a general discussion of the subject and the relation thereto of the so-called Dyer anti Lynching bill which is tabled in the Senate Committee because of grave doubts regarding its constitutionality. The newspapers of all sections unite in condemning mob action and appeal to the law and order element in every community to stamp out the spirit of violence. But many express doubt of the wisdom of action by the federal government believing that the states themselves can be depended on to end the outrages.

Although harm has come because of a popular conception that Federal laws are better enforced than state enactments, which has resulted in allegations that States Rights have been trespassed upon, the Milwaukee Sentinel feels convinced that it is "high time for some states to bring their law enforcement machinery up to the standard set by the Federal laws." Yet with that view carefully taken into consideration the Grand Rapids Herald believes that "in spirit and purpose the Dyer law is sound. Persistent Southern lynchings are a blot on American civilization. This curse will never be controlled by the states themselves. Under the doctrine of 'implied powers' some way can be found—whether the Dyer law or some other—to make federal attack upon this curse constitutional and resultful." In view of the fact that there apparently was conclusive evidence that some, at least, of the negroes lynched were guilty the Manitowoc Herald News says the incident appears "in what might be called its most favorable aspect," and then, after recalling that the "great majority of decent Southerners have spoken against this crime," insists "the Federal Government apparently cannot set free the negroes but it can and should see that they are protected in life and limb."

Sharp and sincere denunciation of the killing of the negroes is voiced by the Lynchburg News in pointing out that "the cure for the evil resides with the authorities and the public opinion of the communities in which this order of lawlessness finds expression," and it makes it very clear that "because of a few recklessly, cruelly, lawlessly disposed groups of people, the entire South is unjustly advertised to be a land where lynching stalks abroad, as an unconquerable menace to the maintenance of order and to the peace of society." While this is true some action must be taken to curb the evil in the opinion of the Boston Transcript which insists if Congress has not power to act then a constitutional amendment should give this authority because "the nation is on its conscience in this matter. It cannot live and be safe while nourishing in its breast such rampant and worsening savagery as lynch law expresses." But there is sincere doubt in the mind of the Rochester Herald whether law of any sort will suffice, it suggesting that "there is but one way to stop lynching and that is by more general education, but the cultivation of greater confidence in, and more universal reliance upon, the courts and in the processes of law."

The Southland is "unfortunately libelled by circumstances and individuals that are directly antagonistic to her thought, her sentiment, her aspirations and her spirit," the Memphis Commercial Appeal points out, in comparing the mob violence to the actions in Washington of Senator Tom Watson and Representative Blanton. "Both cast a stain upon the fair name, the high ideals and the lofty sentiments of a great section of the country", it says. However, mob outrages are by no means confined to the South the Columbia Record quietly points out in suggesting that "in the South a bombing outrage is a rarity, and recalling the numerous recent cases in northern cities. In addition, while it is believed that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional, the Charleston Post reminds its readers that "those sections which fly mob adjudication of crimes committed ought to appreciate the significance of the movement, which almost succeeded, to put this measure through and that, while it has been largely political in its inspiration, there is a widespread revolt against the lynching evil a nd it might find expression in some legislation which might even pass the scrutiny of the Supreme court."

No one will deny that the "mob must go," in the opinion of the Chattanooga Times, which suggests that "the call now is for courage and for organized opposition to any sort of interference with the authority of the state and a determined purpose to maintain the guarantees of religion and political liberty. If that is not done then the American experiment must fail." While the possibility of passage of the Dyer bill has vanished, the Mobile Register contends that "there should be no apologies for lynching and all good citizens wish to see such manifestations of lawlessness suppressed." Endorsing this view the Columbus Dispatch points out that constitutionality was claimed for the Dyer bill "under that clause of the constitution which forbids any state to deny to any of its citizens the equal protection of the laws, in various other matters as well as lynchings, and the possible substitution of federal for police power would be virtually unlimited.

Manifestations of mob violence are not limited by geographical lines, in the opinion of the Omaha World Herald, which insists that "the vengence of a mob, however just is cause may seem, is unreasonable and beastly. How can we call ourselves civilized and at the same time indulge in savage customs?" Because of this very fact the Peoria Transcript suggests that "if there is any force in the platitude that our government is broadbased on local self government the fashion of appealing to Washington is not a hopeful sign. What is needed in this country is a revival of law and order in small political units. There is too much responsibility outbound and too little inbound." Regardless of all suggested excuses for mob action the Wichita Times is firmly convinced that "mobs are incapable of the judgment and reason that ought to be the guide in the administration of justice."

It is the belief however of the Sioux City Tribune that federal action is required to end lynching and it looks to the Senate to furnish an acceptable substitute for the Dyer bill because "Americans are not against lynching and public opinion may be depended upon to condemn congressional inaction with regard to it." But in the final analysis the Washington Star is convinced the remedy lies in the hands of the people of the various communities because "burnings are quite in the fashion now. The rope and the pistol have become tame and unpicturesque. They no longer afford a thrill; and the gallery demands a thrill—something hot and stirring. The galleries are growing in size. Everybody turns out to see the show and a good time seems to be had by all. Nothing like it is to be found elsewhere. Has the law abiding element in America become powerless? If not, how soon may it be expected to assert itself?"

Houston Post 7-4-22

The Dyer Bill Revived

For several weeks the Dyer anti-lynching bill has been reposing peacefully in a pigeonhole in the headquarters of the senate judiciary committee. It looked as though the bill were destined for a long sleep there, since the senate had manifested less enthusiasm over it than the house, which passed it by a substantial majority early in the year.

Now the senate judiciary committee revives interest in the bill by voting to report it favorably to the senate, with amendments designed to eliminate constitutional objections. Senator Cummins of Iowa is preparing the amendments, and it is believed that even the objections of Senator Borah will be overcome.

One does not have to look far to find a reason for this sudden new interest in the measure. More than likely the bill would have been forgotten during this session of congress had not an unprecedented wave of mob violence swept the country. Texas led the States with eleven persons lynched during the month of May, a number of whom were burned at the stake. Other States reported instances of mob violence in one form or another, and then came the crowning piece of infamy of the country, the massacre of helpless, unarmed non-union miners at Herrin.

These bloody affairs no doubt influenced the senate committee into the belief that the Federal government should take action to supplement the States in removing the menace of the mob. No doubt, too, the committee was influenced in its action by the fact that the States made little or no effort to apprehend and bring to justice those involved in any of the mob murders. The indifference and impotence of the States in connection with lynching was never more strikingly illustrated than during the past two months.

Numerous representatives at Washington have protested vigorously against what they term the invasion of the rights of the States in enacting the Dyer bill, yet the States for whose rights they have been pleading, have shown almost no inclination to exercise their rights in this matter and put down mob violence within their borders.

Under the circumstances, no one can say that the Dyer bill as amended will not pass and become a law. Among the republicans the chief objection to it was that it contained some provisions of doubtful constitutionality, but with these removed republicans will have no scruples against passing it. If it does become law, the States are to blame for actually hastening its adoption, through their indifference to a series of lynchings scarcely paralleled in the country's history.

N. Y. C. TELEGRAPH
SEPTEMBER 22, 1922

The Senate Wishes to Waste Time on an Anti-Lynching Bill.

The Sixth Commandant says: "Thou shalt not kill"; homicide is against the Common Law, and every one of the forty-eight States in this Union provides a penalty for murder. Then, one may ask, why is the Senate so eager to pass the Anti-Lynching bill? Lynching is homicide by mob and the killers can be sent to the gallows or the death chair. A fight was made in the Senate to give the Anti-Lynching measure the "right of way," but its supporters failed to get their wish. There is no necessity for passing a Federal law against murder; it would be just as apropos to pass a law providing for the punishment of robbers. Fortunate it is for the country that there are some men in the Senate wise enough to head off a long session over what would amount to nothing in the end. In connection with the Anti-Lynching bill—every one is supposed to object to mob violence—it is reported in a dispatch from Washington in the Sun that Southern members oppose the measure. They say it is unconstitutional.

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1091

National (Dyer Bill)

1091

Negro Democrats Band Together To Help Dyer Bill

The Freeman
Indianapolis, Ind.
7-8-22

Special to The Freeman:

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—U. S. Senator James Reed is fighting with his back against the wall, hoping to defeat Breckenridge Long for the U. S. Senatorial nomination in this state. The primary is in August and Reed will have to close his fight without any material aid from the negro Democrats of the state, of whom there are a large number in Kansas City and this city, and it is solely because of his failure to stand for the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.

Not long ago a committee of prominent citizens met the senator by appointment at the Jefferson Hotel and discussed this matter with him. The bill was referred to his committee. He frankly told this committee that he feared the bill was unconstitutional—a statement which most negroes regard as a polite political way of lying or dodging out of the thing—but he was in favor of a state law to this effect. Leading negro Democrats of this city give it as their opinion it would be folly for Reed or any one else opposed to the Dyer Bill to expect negro support. These same men do not try to conceal the fact they are going to the polls and do all they can for Dyer, regardless of who is against him, simply because he stood pat and is following it up. Some of these men have fought Dyer as bitterly as men could, because they had not seen any act of his which they considered a test of what he would do; they did not care to analyze motives. Reed has failed his colored constituents, and they will not support him.

The senatorial contest among the Republicans is a mad scramble. Some of these aspirants will have some explaining to do to the colored voters, because they have failed in the past. Failed in doing their sworn duty to the state.

BUFFALO N Y NEWS
JUNE 30, 1922

AFTER THE HORSE IS STOLEN.

The massacre at Herrin has had the effect of inducing the Senate judiciary committee to report the Dyer anti-lynching bill. This measure, already passed by the House, provides a penalty of $10,000 for every mob murder, collectible in federal court from the county in which the killing occurs.

Had this been law on June 21, Williamson county, Illinois now would be liable for a heavy bill of damages. By the same token, had this been law, the responsible folk of the county probably would have organized to prevent the massacre, which was advertised far and wide.

PHILADELPHIA PA RECORD
JULY 3, 1922

The anti-lynching bill appears to be a sort of life-preserver, which Henry Cabot Lodge regards as very necessary for his salvation, for he is having the time of his life trying to convince Massachusetts that it still needs him in the Senate. He is in desperate need of the colored vote. Lynching is a disgrace to the States where it occurs, and reflects upon the country. Yet it is only sporadic; it is not in the least like the systematic efforts of Turks to exterminate Christians, or Russian pogroms, or Boxer insurrections to annihilate the "foreign devils." Most of the Southern Governors, Judges and Sheriffs do their duty, though the lynching is generally over before the machinery of the law can get into operation. Of course, the punishment of murder, whether by an individual or a mob, is a matter for the States and not the national authority. And so far as local public sentiment is concerned, the Federal Courts are not likely to differ much from State Courts: the Federal Judges are residents of the district, and the juries are drawn from the same population as the juries for the State Courts. But the reporting of the bill may be politically important to Mr. Lodge.

VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL REPORTED.

The Senate Committee on the Judiciary met on June 29 and after final discussion on the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill agreed to meet the next day and take a vote. On the next afternoon the Committee voted to report the Bill favorably to the Senate, the vote being eight to six. Senators Ashurst of Arizona and Moses of Nebraska absented themselves from the meeting and did not vote. Eight Republican members present voted to report the Bill favorably. They were Senators Dillingham, Brandegee, Colt, Sterling, Shortridge, Ernst, Cummins and Nelson. Senator Borah voted against the report with five Democrats, Culberson, Overman, Reed, Shields and Walsh. New York Age - 7-8-22

In reporting the Bill the Senate Committee slightly amended one of the sections. This section is Section 4. In the Bill as originally passed by the House Section 4 read as follows:

> Section 4. That the district court of the judicial district wherein a person is put to death by a mob or riotous assemblage shall have jurisdiction to try and punish, in accordance with the laws of the State where the homicide is committed, those who participate therein: *Provided*, That it is first made to appear to such court that the officers of the State charged with the duty of prosecuting such offense under the laws of the State fail, neglect or refuse to apprehend or punish such participants, or that the jurors obtainable for service in the State court having jurisdiction of the the offense are so strongly opposed to such punishment that there is no reasonable probability that those guilty of the offense can be punished in such State court. A failure for more than thirty days after the commission of such an offense to apprehend the person guilty thereof shall be prima facie evidence of such failure, neglect, or refusal.

In the Bill as amended by the Senate Committee, the proviso of Section 4 is changed to read as follows:

> "Provided that it shall be charged in the indictment that, by reason of the failure, neglect or refusal of the officers of the State charged with the duty of prosecuting such offense under the laws of the State to proceed with due diligence to apprehend and prosecute such participants, the State has denied to its citizens the equal protection of the laws. It shall not be necessary that the jurisdictional allegations herein required shall be proved beyond a reasonable doubt, and it shall be sufficient that such allegations are sustained by a preponderance of the evidence."

This in no wise weakens the Bill. Several of the best lawyers who have examined believe that the Bill is strengthened by this amendment. The great fear was that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary would amend the Bill so as to take the teeth out of it. The friends of the Bill were apprehensive about Section 5, the section which provides for an indemnity of $10,000 being placed upon each county in which a lynching occurs. This section was left untouched by the Committee.

The report of the Committee will be written by Senator Short-

DENIES SECTIONALISM IN ANTI-LYNCH BILL

Atlanta Constitution
7-29-22

Washington, July 28.—Denial that the Dyer anti-lynching bill was "sectional" was made in a report filed today by Senator Shortridge, republican, California for a majority of the senate judiciary committee which recently ordered a favorable report on the measure.

"The evil it is designed to cure is not confined to any particular section or state, north or south, east or west," said the report, which asserted the bill was not unconstitutional.

ridge of California who will also lead the fight on the floor for the passage of the ill. We are extremely fortunate in having Senator Shortridge chosen to do this. Senator Shortridge is the one member of the Senate Judiciary Committee who has all along held the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill to be entirely constitutional. A number of other Republican members were in favor of the Bill and pledged their support to it but were doubtful about the constitutionality of certain of its provisions. Senator Shortridge has all along stood one hundred per cent. for the Bill.

Furthermore, Senator Shortridge is a brave fighter. In the discussions which took place in the Committee he never hesitated to meet the stock arguments of the Southern members with a frontal attack and demolish them. When Southern members of the Committee put up the subtle argument of "white man to white man," that if the Anti-Lynching Bill was enacted it would encourage crime of rape among Negroes in the South, Senator Shortridge met them with facts and statistics and hammered them into silence. He showed them what everybody ought to know, that in less than sixteen per cent. of all the lynching cases in the past thirty years has there been even a charge of rape.

Moreover, the choice of Senator Shortridge is fortunate for us in that his heart is in this legislation. The writer had a long talk with him immediately after the adjournment of the Committee and he believes that Senator Shortridge looks forward with great satisfaction to championing this measure on the floor of the Senate. He will go into the fight with the enthusiasm and determination which are necessary for victory.

With a favorable report on the Bill the most difficult part of the work for its final enactment by the Senate has been accomplished. Of course, there will be a bitter fight in the Upper House. Senators like Watson of Georgia, Carraway of Arkansas, Heflin of Alabama and Harrison of Mississippi, you may be assured, are already preparing for the fight and these men are far abler and far more resourceful than any of the opponents who fought the Bill in the House of Representatives. They will resort to every means possible to defeat it or block it—oratory, invective, threats, sympathy, the "duty of white men to white women," misstatements of facts, misrepresentations and denunciation of the Negro, and every available parliamentary strategy.

Nevertheless, the chances for any bill are better on the open floor of the Senate than in the discussion behind closed doors of a committee room. In an open fight on the floor of the Senate we can demand that our friends stand up and be counted and our enemies likewise.

Another force with which friends of the Bill will have to fight will be the Democratic partisan press. The New York "World" has already led off. In its report of the action taken by the committee it headlines the article as follows:

NEWARK N J EVE NEWS
JUNE 23, 1922

Seeking the Solution of A Great Race Problem

What is most impressive about the thirteenth annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, which will come to a close in this city tonight, is the deep-seated earnestness of the delegates. Representing 12,000,000 members of the race in the United States, they are seeking to co-operate in solving a problem that was thrust upon the nation as a result of the Civil War, and that has thus far proved unsolvable. They have been advised by their white friends that they must stand firmly together against lawlessness—white as well as negro lawlessness—if they would win, and that is what they are planning to do in their conference.

Their battling is not to be physical, but political. The great stress of the gathering has been over the Dyer anti-lynching bill, which has passed the lower branch of Congress and is now being held in committee in the Senate. No one familiar with lynching statistics and the horrid details that accompany hangings and burnings can blame those who are calling for an assured legal method that will be a check upon such crimes and will tend to prevent race riots.

That they are impatient with the claim that the reason the Dyer bill has not been passed and made law is that it is unconstitutional is not to be wondered at. They look upon that as an excuse, and they justify their view by the citation of a court decision in South Carolina upholding the provision in the Constitution of that Southern state for the collection of exemplary damages by a county to the legal representative of the person lynched.

The same principle underlies the Dyer bill, whose author appeared at the conference and gave his views that the measure was constitutional in its main provisions. There may be reason to believe that the Supreme Court would not sustain this claim, but the advice he gave the colored people that they must cease their bickerings if they wish to gain the rights guaranteed them by the fundamental law of the land was sound, and the leaders of the race honestly working for its advancement will do well if they can win the rank and file to a realization of the fact.

N Y C WORLD
JULY 3, 1922

SENATOR LODGE AND THE NEGRO VOTE.

The democratic soul of Henry Cabot Lodge is wrung by the wrongs of poor colored men of the South at the hands of Ku Klux and other self-appointed regulators. After long effort he has prevailed upon the Senate Judiciary Committee to report out the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill.

To do Senator Lodge justice, he knows the Constitution. He can repeat it backward, forward and sidewise. He knows that the Dyer bill is a pure fake, for politics only. He knows as well as do the members of the Judiciary Committee that it is unconstitutional and that the courts will upset it at the first test. But that will take time. Meanwhile, the "Negro vote" is badly needed.

No one will accuse The World of sympathy with the Ku Klux or with lack of friendship for the Negro. But friendship is better shown by saying now, and plainly, that this measure will do him no good than it is by passing, with a wink and a jest, a bill that the entire Senate knows to be not worth the paper it is printed on.

The Dyer bill may not even pass the Senate. It is sure to encounter opposition from Senators who do not think the name of their great Chamber should be lent to a legislative cheat. But if next October Mr. Lodge in Massachusetts, Mr. Frelinghuysen in New Jersey and other anxious statesmen can say, "Well, we tried to pass an Anti-Lynching Bill," they will be satisfied. It is a good enough Dyer bill until election, whatever courts or Congress may do with it later.

SENATE WILL REPORT ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Montgomery Advertiser

(Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, June 29.—An agreement to vote finally on the house anti-lynching bill was reached today by the senate judiciary committee with indications that the bill would be reported to the senate by a divided vote and without fundamental change in the house plan.

6-30-22

In amending the bill today, the committee adopted proposals by Senator Cummins, republican, Iowa, designed to remove some of the constitutional points raised against the legislation which has been urged by negro and other organizations and opposed by members of congress from some northern as well as southern states. The Cummins amendment would require a statement, in federal indictments against those alleged to have participated in lynchings, that the state in which the lynching occurred had failed to give the victim the constitutional protection required.

Opponents of the legislation which would give the government power to indict members of lynching mobs, said that the committee revision did not save the bill, in their opinion, from being unconstitutional. Other senators said, however, that they favored passage of the amended bill and putting the question again before the supreme court.

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation

1092

Dyer Bill (National)

1092

Congress and Lynching

THE Dyer Anti-Lynching bill has taken a number of hurdles in the House of Representatives, but every time that a clear stretch seems in front a new obstacle is thrown up to retard its progress. In the middle of December, southern Democratic members were defeated in an attempted filibuster by the adoption of a rule giving the bill right of way over all other business. The debate, in spite of all efforts of its opponents to suppress it, again came up on January 4, when, as on the previous occasion, most of the time was consumed by roll calls. Nevertheless, it is predicted that these tactics cannot prevail for long, and that pressure will be applied by the majority to get a decisive vote on the bill.

Recent statistics show that the number of lynchings has been almost the same in 1921 as in 1920, and that the favorite argument in apology for lynchings has no basis in fact. Of 63 persons lynched in 1921, 62 were in the South and one in the North; 59 were Negroes and 4 were whites; 19, or less than one-third of those lynched, were charged with rape or attempted rape. Taking the figures for a period of 33 years, 1889 to 1921, 2,705 of a total of 3,433 lynchings in the United States occurred in the eleven southern states. Of the total number only 16.6 per cent had been accused of the crime of rape. Georgia and Mississippi, as in previous years, in 1921 again headed the list of states with the largest number of lynchings. H. W. Sumners, representative for Texas, attacked some of the statistics given by Congressman Dyer without substituting more authentic ones, and expressed his belief that the bill, which provides for a federal fine on counties in which lynchings have occurred or on state officials who have been negligent, will create more race hatred and lead to more outrages. He also attacked the constitutionality of the bill. But its backers are prepared to take that hurdle when it comes; namely, after the bill has been passed and acted upon by the government. The Department of Justice is holding the bill to be constitutional, and the House Committee on the Judiciary has endorsed this opinion.

During the last year, two more states have adopted anti-lynching laws, according to the annual report of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, just published: West Virginia and Minnesota. The Minnesota act embodies the same principles as the Dyer bill, by providing for a fine of $7,500 on a county in which a lynching occurs and for the punishment of officers who permit prisoners to fall into the hands of a mob.

Anti-Lynching Bill Is Saved

New York, N. Y., May 29—The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, H. R. 13, is saved. This was the statement of James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who returned to New York from Washington on Friday, May 26, after spending a week fighting for the Dyer Bill through the most critical stage of its existence.

During that time an unfavorable report on the Dyer Bill by the Judiciary Committee of the Senate on Monday, May 22, was narrowly averted, and the Republican leaders of the Senate were convinced that favorable action was absolutely essential. During his week in the national capital the N. A. A. C. P. Secretary was in constant conference with Senators Borah, Lodge, Curtis, Capper, Calder, Ernest, Shortridge, Sterling, McCormick, Dillingham and Watson, and with Representatives Dyer, Burton and Madden.

As a result of the Secretary's efforts not only has an unfavorable report been averted but the Senate Judiciary Committee on Thursday, May 24, met and decided to postpone action for two weeks during which time efforts would be devoted to making the Bill absolutely unassailable when it is brought upon the floor of the Senate.

Senator Borah said to the Secretary before he left Washington that if there was anything he (Senator Borah) could do to save the life of a single Negro from a mob, he would do it.

During Mr. Johnson's week in Washington he presented to the members of the Committee on the Judiciary and leading Republican Senators briefs upholding the constitutionality of the Dyer Bill, prepared by Moorfield Storey and by James A. Cobb, Chairman of the legal committee, Washington Branch N. A. A. C. P. A third brief was sent to the Senate by William H. Lewis, formerly assistant U. S. Attorney General, who had been requested by Mr. Johnson to do so. A fourth brief was sent to the Senate by Butler R. Wilson, secretary of the Boston Branch N. A. A. C. P.

In the course of the week at Washington, the N. A. A. C. P. Secretary made clear to Republican leaders that a failure to act favorably on the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill would have three disastrous results

1. It would constitute a confession on the part of the Federal Government of inability to deal with America's shame and would leave the Negro hopeless of that protection against the mob owed him by the government to which he gives his allegiance.

2. It would be interpreted as a license to mobs and might be followed by a reign of lynching terror too horrible to be described.

3. It would be a repudiation of the pledge made by the Republican Party in its national platform that action would be taken on lynching, and would more than anything else discredit that party among colored voters.

Mr. Johnson pointed out to the Republican leaders in Washington that the primary elections in several states had shown the strong sentiment for the Dyer Bill, a sentiment it would not be safe to ignore. In Indiana, Senator Beveridge, who had indorsed the Bill, had been elected governor over Senator New. In Pennsylvania, Gifford Pinchot had been elected over Mr. Alter who had opposed the Dyer Bill.

In conclusion Mr. Johnson issued the following statement:

"Every colored man and woman in the United States ought to make it their primary business to see that the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, H. R. 13, is passed by the Senate. Six human beings, all of them Negroes, were burned at the stake in the United States during the fifteen days in the month of May 1922. If that is not enough to stir colored Americans to united action, then nothing will or can. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People offers everyone an opportunity to work for the Dyer Bill Telegraph your Senator. Join the N. A. A. C. P. Write us for information if you want it at 70 Fifth Avenue, New York. Do it now or, in victory or defeat, remember you had opportunity to take part in a great fight and failed. Remember, this is the time to act."

BOSTON MASS HERALD
JUNE 8, 1922

COX DECLARES FOR ANTI-LYNCHING BILL

Speaks at Opening of A. M. E. Conference

Gov. Cox, speaking last night at the 78th session of the New England annual conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion, held at the A. M. E. Zion Church, Columbus avenue and Northampton street, endorsed the Dwyer anti-lynching bill, declared against discrimination against negroes in civil service appointments, and urged the members of the convention to be encouraged by the progress of the last 60 years.

"I believe in the Dwyer anti-lynching bill—in the name of humanity and justice, let those who take lives without the due process of law pay the penalty," said the Governor. "If it is necessary to read such action into the law, let it be done. I have hung my head in shame when my country has stood by, making no move, when negroes have suffered untold horrors."

He then spoke of cases during the beginning of his administration in which he had found that negro girls who had stood first on the civil service examination list had not received appointments. He had taken the matter up with the civil service commission, and in every case the girls had received the appointments to which they had been entitled.

"I am reciting these things," the Governor continued, "not to gain favor, but to show you that there are men and women who are sincerely interested in seeing justice done to everybody, regardless of creed or race."

William H. McMasters, as the representative of Mayor Curley, welcomed the convention to Boston.

The convention, representing 26 churches in Maine, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts, opened yesterday morning and will continue until Saturday. Bishop William L. Lee of Brooklyn, N. Y., was the presiding officer. The Rev. R. A. Carroll of Providence delivered a sermon on "The Spiritual Magnet" at the communion service in the morning. The Rev. George F. Green of Danbury was elected secretary of the convention, the Rev. F. C. Van Buren of Worcester as assistant secretary. The Rev. B. W. Swain, pastor of the A. M. E. Zion Church, presided at the evening session.

On Friday evening, Thompson B. Nangu of South Africa will speak. There will also be a pageant, "Binding and Loosing the Nations," by Mrs. Helen B. Montgomery, presented under the auspices of the Greater Boston Mission study class, of which Mrs. T. A. Auton is the director and Mrs. M. G. Powell the leader.

BALTIMORE MD. MORN. SUN
MAY 26, 1922

LODGE AND LYNCHING.

Senator Lodge's fences in Massachusetts being evidently more than a little "wabbly," he begins to look around for some large-sized issues with which to nail them up. Seeing nothing else handy, he is, according to a Washington dispatch to the New York *World*, seeking to make capital in Massachusetts by starting a campaign of prejudice against the South. The House of Representatives passed a preposterous anti-lynching bill, which the Senate has pigeonholed because it was as unconstitutional as it was unwise. But there are quite a number of colored voters in Massachusetts whose support Mr. Lodge is anxious to retain, and so he is urging the Judiciary Committee of the Senate to devise an anti-lynching measure likely to be sustained by the Supreme Court.

The renewal of this proposal is generally regarded in Washington simply as a political expedient. It is designed purely as a colored vote-catcher, as a means of holding the negro vote in line next fall. Mr. Lodge's belated activity in the matter will probably do him very little good in Massachusetts or anywhere else. It will recall to Southern recollection his attitude on the force bill of a former generation, and we doubt whether it appeals to the Massachusetts of the present day. Mr. Lodge will fail to divert attention from himself by calling for a new Federal invasion of the South. Lynching is barbaric and horrible and it ought to be suppressed, but to make a sectional issue of it is the way to substitute a greater for a lesser evil.

But apart from all this, with what grace can Senator Lodge come before the country as the opponent of lynching when he led the Senate mob that lynched the League of Nations treaty? That was the greatest lynching bee in history. He helped to burn the poor treaty at the stake, with a very slow fire, to the accompaniment of many savage dances and warwhoops. The victim may or may not have deserved it, but the champion lyncher of the age, who murdered the hope of the world, is not precisely the person to fill the rôle of a crusader for humanity.

ASBURY PARK N J
JUNE 7, 1922

Editorial Digest

BURNING AT THE STAKE AND THE DYER ANTI LYNCHING BILL

Editors Couple The Two In Arguing For and Aagainst Federal Legislation Directed Against Mob Violence.

The recent epidemic of mob violence against negroes has resulted in a general discussion of the subject and the relation thereto of the so-called Dyer anti lynching bill which is tabled in the Senate committee because of grave doubts regarding its constitutionality. The newspapers of all sections unite in condemning mob action and appeal to the law and order element in every community to stamp out the spirit of violence. But many express doubt of the wisdom of action by the federal government believing that the states themselves can be depended on to end the outrages.

Altho harm has come because of a popular conception that federal laws are better enforced than state enactments, which has resulted in allegations that states rights have been trespassed upon, the Milwaukee SENTINEL feels convinced that it is "high time for some states to bring their law enforcement machinery up to the standard set by the federal laws." Yet with that view carefully taken into consideration the Grand Rapids HERALD believes that "in spirit and purpose the Dyer law is sound. Persistent Southern lynchings are a blot on American civilization. This curse will never be controlled by the states themselves. Under the doctrine of 'implied powers' some way can be found—whether the Dyer law or some other—to make federal attack upon this curse consituational and resultful." In view of the fact that there apparently was conclusive evidence that some, at least, of the negroes lynched were guilty the Manitowoc HERALD NEWS says the incident appears "in that might be called its most favorable aspect," and then, after recalling that the "great majority of decent southerners have spoken against this crime," insists "the federal government apparently cannot set free the negroes but it can and should see that they are protected in life and limb."

Sharp and sincere denunciation of the killing of the negroes is voiced by the Lynchburg NEWS in pointing out that "the cure for the evil resides with the authorities and the public opinion of the communities in which this order of lawlessness finds expression", and it makes it very clear that "because of a few recklessly, cruelly, lawlessly disposed groups of people, the entire south is unjustly advertised to be a land where lynching stalks abroad, as an unconquerable menace to the maintenance of order and to the peace of society." While this is true some action must be taken to curb the evil in the opinion of the Boston TRANSCRIPT which insists if congress has not power to act then a constitutional amendment should give this authority because "the nation is on its conscience in this matter. It cannot live and be safe while nourishing in its breast such rampant and worsening savagery as lynch law expresses." But there is sincere doubt in the mind of the Rochester HERALD whether law of any sort will suffice, it suggesting that "there is but one way to stop lynching and that is by more general education, by the cultivation of greater confidence in and more universal reliance upon the courts and in the processes of law."

The southland is "unfortunately libelled by circumstances and individuals that are directly antagonistic to her thought, her sentiment, her aspirations and her spirit," the Memphis COMMERCIAL APPEAL points out, in comparing the mob violence to the actions in Washington of Senator Tom Watson and Representative Blanton. "Both cast a stain upon the fair name, the high ideals and the lofty sentiments of a great section of this country", it says. However, mob outrages are by no means confined to the South the Columbia RECORD quietly points out in suggesting that "in the South a bombing outrage is a rarity, and recalling the numerous recent cases in northern cities. In additon, while it is believed that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional, the Charleston POST reminds its readers that "those sections which fly to mob adjudication of crimes committed ought to appreciate the significance of the movement which almost succeeded, to put this measure thru and that, while it has been large ly political in its inspiration there is a widespread revolt against the lynching evil and it might find expression in some legislation which might even pass the scrutiny of the supreme court."

No one will deny that the "mob must go", in the opinion of the Chattanooga TIMES, which suggests that "the call now is for courage and for organized opposition to any sort of interference with the authority of the state and a determined purpose to maintain the guarantees of religious and political liberty. If that is not done then the American experiment must fail." While the possibility of passage of the Dyer bill has vanished, the Mobile REGISTER contends that "there should be no apologies for lynching and all good citizens wish to see sdch manifestations of lawlessness suppressed." Endorsing this view the Columbus DISPATCH points out that constitutionality was claimed for the Dyer bill "under that clause of the constitution which forbids any state to deny to any of its citizens the equal protection of the laws," and suggests that "on thta basis almost any state in the union could be accused of denying the equal protection of the laws, in various other matters as well as lynchings, and the possible substitution of federal for police power would be virtually unlimited."

Manifestations of mob violence are not limited by geographical lines, in the opinion of the Omaha WORLD HERALD, which insists that "the vengeance of a mob, however, just this cause may seem, is unreasonable and beastly. How can we call ourselves civilized and at the same time indulge in savage customs?" Because of this very fact the Peoria TRANSCRIPT suggests that "if there is any force in the platitude that our government is broadbased on local self government the fashion of appealing to Washington is not a hopeful sign. What is needed in this country is a revival of law and order in small political units. There is too much responsibility outbound and too little inbound." Regardless of all suggested excuses for mab action the Wichita TIMES is firmly convinced that "mobs are incapable of the judgment and reason that ought to be the guide in the administration of justice."

It is the belief however, of the Sioux City TRIBUNE that federal action is required to end lynching and it looks to the senate to furnish an aceptable substitute for the Dyer bill because "Americans are hot against lynching and public opinion may be depended upon to condemn congressional inaction with regard to it." But in the final analysis the Washington STAR is convinced the remedy lies in the hands of the people of the various communities because "burnings are quite in the fashion now. The rope ond the pistol have become tame and unpicturesque. They no longer afford a thrill; and the gallery demands a thrill—something hot and stirring. The galleries are growing in side. Everybody turns out to see the show and a good time seems to be had by all. Nothing like it is found elsewhere. Has the law abiding element in America become powerless? If not, how soon may it be expected to assert itself?"

VOTERS ARE URGED TO DEFEAT KELLEY

New York Amsterdam News

Declaring that it is the duty of every colored voter in Michigan to vote against Patrick J. Kelley because of his stand on the question of anti-lynching legislation when the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill was voted on in the House of Representatives in January, James Weldon Johnson, Secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has written to each of the sixteen branches of that organization in Michigan urging them to support Senator Townsend who has definitely declared himself in favor of the bill, in preference to Kelley. Mr. Johnson points out in his letter that he is taking such action and urged colored voters to consider their votes not as a narrow and partisan political issue but as one involving the fundamental right of all persons to protection from mob violence and lynching.

LEADERSHIP

MANY COMPLAINTS have been registered against the present administration for its lack of backbone in dealing with questions affecting us. The administration seems to have been overanxious to avoid giving any color to the campaign charges to a close relationship to the brother on the part of its elected leader. Great care has been taken to keep the faithful from feeding at the public crib too strong for fear good appoinments might embarrass the Republicans. The Dyer bill has been all put pigeonholed in the Senate and no word from the White House yet. But why complain? The coal strike is still unsettled. The man who has been freely charged with moral responsibility for the Herrin massacre has been summoned to the White House to confer when he should have met the attorney general. The rail strike grows more menacing day by day. Who can charge that only the black man has no ability to lead? Read the signs and draw your own conclusion.

NEW YORK

WORCESTER MASS POST
AUGUST 3, 1922

ANTI LYNCHING MASS MEETING

Congressman Dyer in Alhambra Hall Monday

The anti-lynching mass meeting already announced for next Monday night will be held in Alhambra Hall in the Knights of Columbus Building on Elm Street with Congressman Dyer of Missouri, author of the anti-lynching bill, as principal speaker. The meeting place has been changed to Alhambra Hall as a central location. An anti-lynching parade will form in Salem Square and will march to the hall led by the First Regiment Band of the Knights of Pythias.

The meeting is being arranged by the Worcester branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and is part of a nation-wide program of meetings planned to crystalize public sentiment behind the Dyer bill so Congress will be forced by pressure of public opinion and demand, to enact the measure.

Mayor Sullivan, Atty. Charles R. Johnson and other prominent men of the white race besides Congressman Dyer, and leading local and national men of the colored race have accepted invitations to be present and will give brief talks. President George A. Roberts of the Worcester branch of the association will preside and Walter White of New York, assistant secretary of the national organization, is actively interested in the plans for the meeting and will assist in its program.

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Boston Mass. Guardian 3/11/22

THRONG ON COMMON HONOR MEMORY OF CRISPUS ATTUCKS, NEGRO SLAVE, AND FIRST VICTIM OF BOSTON MASSACRE

Photo shows Mayor Curley addressing a part of the throng that gathered on the Common yesterday, the 152nd anniversary of the Boston Massacre. The meeting marked Boston's participation in the "Citizenship Foundation Day." (Photo by Fred T. Huntington, Post Staff Photographer.) Lines used by Post. Cut courtesy of Boston Post.

LEAGUE SENDS SENATE A TULSAN'S PRAYER

Boston Mass. Guardian

ADOPTED ON BOSTON COMMON AT ATTUCKS STATUE AND AT NIGHT MEETING. — SMITHERMAN'S ANTI-LYNCHING PLEAS FOR DYER BILL SENT TO JUDICIARY COMMITTEE—FIT USE OF ATTUCKS' DAY.

3/11/22

34 Cornhill, March 7, 1922.

Hon. Knute Nelson, Chairman,
Judiciary Committee, U. S. Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:—

Acting upon the unanimous vote of the citizens of Boston and vicinity assembled yesterday noon at the Crispus Attucks Mounment on the Boston Common, with Mayor James M. Curley, a speaker, and of a mass meeting assembled in the 12th Baptist church of this city to celebrate Citizenship Foundation Day in memory of Crispus Attucks, the first martyr of American Independence, with Attorney-General J. Weston Allen, a speaker, the National Equal Rights League, M. A. N. Shaw, president, hereby conveys to you and your honorable committee the accompanying prayer for the Dyer Anti-Lynching bill by A. J. Smitherman, one of the survivors of the Tulsa, Oklahoma, riot and massacre, and by the same vote I am authorized to request an early reply acknowledging receipt of this letter and the enclosed prayer and a statement as to the progress of your committee on said bill.

With best wishes I am,

Very sincerely yours,
WM. MONROE TROTTER,
Cor. Sec'y.

A PRAYER TO THE UNITED STATES SENATE TO PASS THE DYER ANTI-LYNCHING BILL BY SURVIVOR OF THE TULSA, OKLAHOMA MASSACRE.

To the Honorable Judiciary Committee, and the Honorable President of the U. S. Senate, Washington, D. C. Gentlemen:—Having myself passed through the throes of our nation's most destructive race riot and massacre in the Tulsa holocaust of May 31 and June 1, 1921, caused by an unsuccessful attempt on the part of a mob to lynch a Colored boy, who was since legally tried and found to be innocent of the crime charged against him, and having lost a lifetime's accumulation at the hands of the mob, and forced into exile with my wife and five children to escape **lynching because I dared through the** columns of my newspaper and otherwise to oppose mob spirit and other kinds of injustice to my people, may I not on behalf of other victims of mob hysteria and for the sake of the future security of our country urge **an early and favorable report of the** so-called Dyer anti-lynching bill now awaiting consideration of your committee?

The passage of this measure by the United States Senate would be assurance to every citizen of our country **that the federal government will protect** human life against mob rule when the states for any reason fail to do so, or would at least punish the guilty parties; **and, secondarily,** would compensate the families of mob victims.

That there is a crying need for such federal enactment hardly permits of argument in the light of the lynching record of our country, but there are those even in the Senate who will dare to question and oppose it, overlooking or deliberately ignoring the urgent necessity of its passage. Indeed there is just demand for such legislation which cannot with safety to our country, be lightly regarded.

To Secure the Government

If our government is to stand intact and secure against disruption, rebellion and anarchy, mob rule must cease and every citizen must be made to feel personal security in the majesty of the law. State governments

have utterly failed to give this assurance in the past and they are evidently unable or unwilling to do so in the future. It is plainly, therefore, up to the federal government to act and it is the duty of every patriotic, justice-loving member of the Senate to facilitate this action through the passage of the Dyer Bill.

I am making this appeal to you for purely patriotic reasons. I see impending danger to our government unless you who are in power and authority take the situation in hand while it is yet time. The Dyer Bill, if passed, would not have an "ex post facto" operation and, therefore, would not reach back to punish mobbists who are now walking the streets of our cities without fear of the law, nor would it compensate the families of their victims. But it would give to all of us a sense of security that none of us can boast of at this time. It would discourage the sinister spirit of the Ku Klux Klan (mob rule), which, though perhaps in disguise, is surely undermining the foundation of our government.

For Life and Country

In the name of God and justice; in the name of the 4,097 souls American mobs have murdered since 1885; in the name of those who sacrificed life and property in the Tulsa riot and massacre to precent the very thing that the Dyer Bill would penalize under federal statute; in the name of the future peace and security of our common country. I humbly offer this appeal in support of the Dyer anti-lynching Bill.

For human life and for our country forever.

Very sincerely yours,
A. J. SMITHERMAN.

LAYS ANTI-LYNCHING BILL TO POLITICIANS

Atlanta Ga. Constitution 2/4/22

Constitution Bureau,
Raleigh Hotel.

Washington, February 3.—(By Constitution Leased Wire.)—Discussing the Dyer anti-lynching bill, Senator Harris this afternoon said:

"The Dyer anti-lynching bill, in my judgment, was primarily conceived by republican leaders for purely political purposes in the north and west, rather than a wholesome and sincere desire to help the negroes in the south—for the bill is aimed at the south.

"I believe the bill to be unconstitutional, and competent students of the law have insisted that the bill is outside and beyond the constitution of the United States.

"Should the bill be reported out of the senate judiciary committee, it will be stubbornly fought to the end on the floor of the senate. I do not believe leaders in the senate will seriously attempt to pass the Dyer bill, but if they do, it will find opposition on the floor which will show the country that southern senators are not unmindful of the real purpose of the bill.

"If this legislation would assist in any way in lessening the crime of lynching it would be another question."

The Dead Say, "Aye!"

Chicago Defender 2/4/22

Lynching Bill Giving Power To Federal Government Is Held Unconstitutional.

The Senate committee to which the "Dyer anti-lynching bill" was referred has brought in its finding, which is that the measure is unconstitutional and an invasion of State sovereignty; in other words, that the States were not to be interfered with in the maintenance of peace and order within their borders, unless such a state of affairs existed as was recently in West Virginia, where conditions had gotten entirely beyond the power of State officials to control and amounted to armed uprising and insurrection. Birmingham Ala. News

The finding of the committee was doubtless influenced by the recent decision of the Supreme Court of the United States, announced by Chief Justice Taft in the "child labor" act, whereby the court held that the Tenth Amendment was violated by such legislation, and the States' sovereignty was invaded. 5/25/22

In many respects it is well that this Dyer bill meets an early fate. It was passed by a partisan vote in the House of Representatives, the Republican majority enacting it as a sop to the colored vote. Negro organizations and some white ones of the North were very insistent upon its passage: the debate in the House was most acrimonious, and the Southern members highly resentful of the attitude taken by the members of the majority. Had the bill passed the Senate and become a law it would have accomplished nothing, but would have stirred up a world of ill-feeling, and perhaps given the more ignorant and lawless element of the colored race the hazy notion that in some way they were special wards of the federal government and would be protected in their misdeeds: and such an idea would have made for a greater amount of lawlessness and greater friction.

Truth of the matter is, there are so many elements entering into this question of mob violence it is hard to say just what is the remedy, if there is one which is a specific. One may argue that speedy trials and certain punishment is the thing to eradicate mob effort. That will not answer entirely.

Knowledge that speedy trial and conviction and certain punishment will follow the commission of an atrocious crime will do much to allay the tendency to take matters in the hands of a mob and wreak summary punishment. In the case of a criminal taken from a Georgia jail Tuesday, the crime had been committed three years ago. He had been twice sentenced to death, quibbles and law points having enabled him to escape his fate, and finally, the patience of the people of the community broke. They doubtless felt that another appeal was due, and more indefinite delay, and in the end, after witnesses died, moved away, or changed their testimony, the criminal would go free. They tried a short cut, and he went free anyway, but there should be a lesson in it for the courts and the bar.

If the courts will devote themselves to the doing of substantial justice, as the English courts do, instead of setting about to split hairs and quibble over the difference between tweedledum and tweedledee; if criminal cases can be expedited, and the rules of criminal procedure in the courts so amended as to give the State an equal show with the defense, there will be more confidence in the courts, and less inclination to take summary measures on the part of the people. "The law's delays" are as much responsible for mob violence as the crimes which are the inception of such action. The bar associations of the various States can greatly clarify the present condition if they have a mind to.

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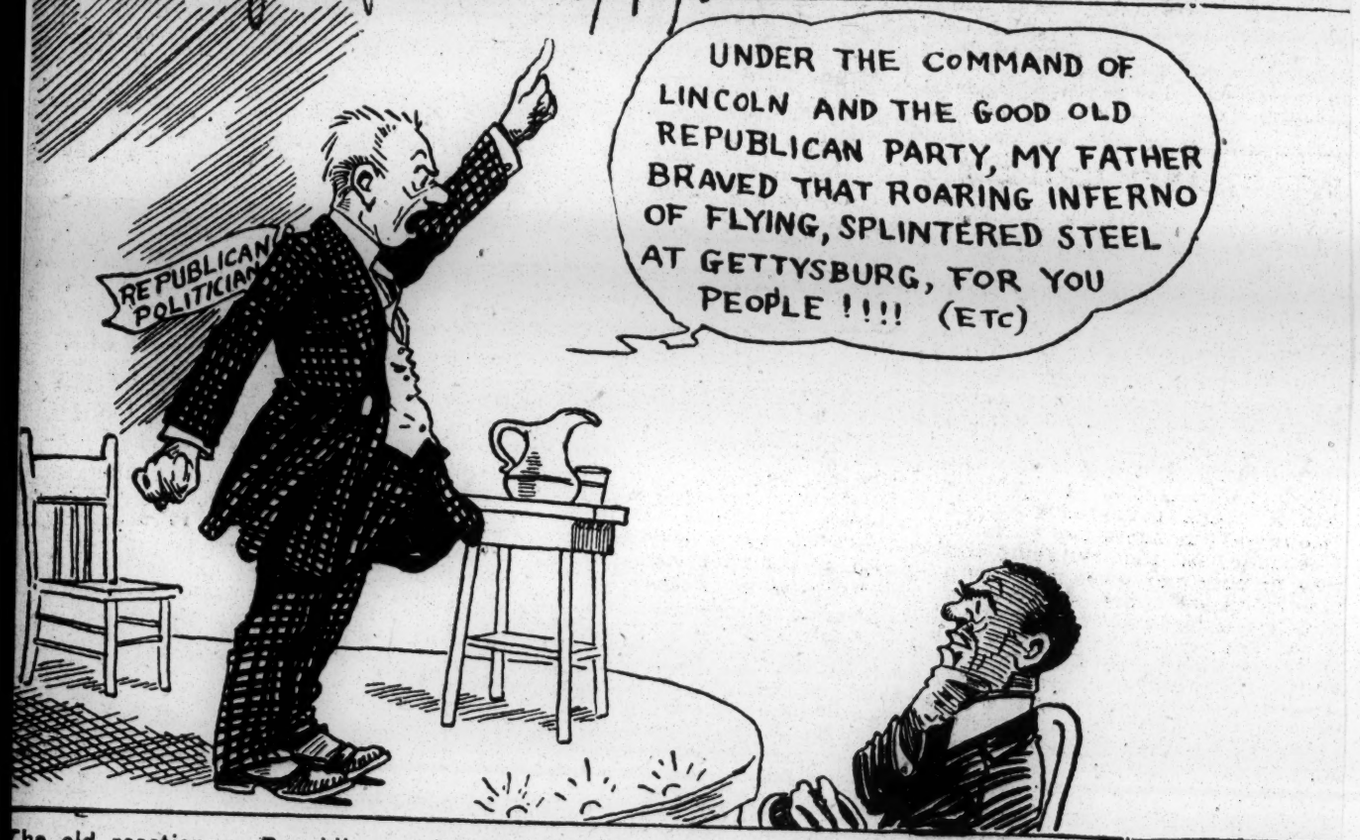
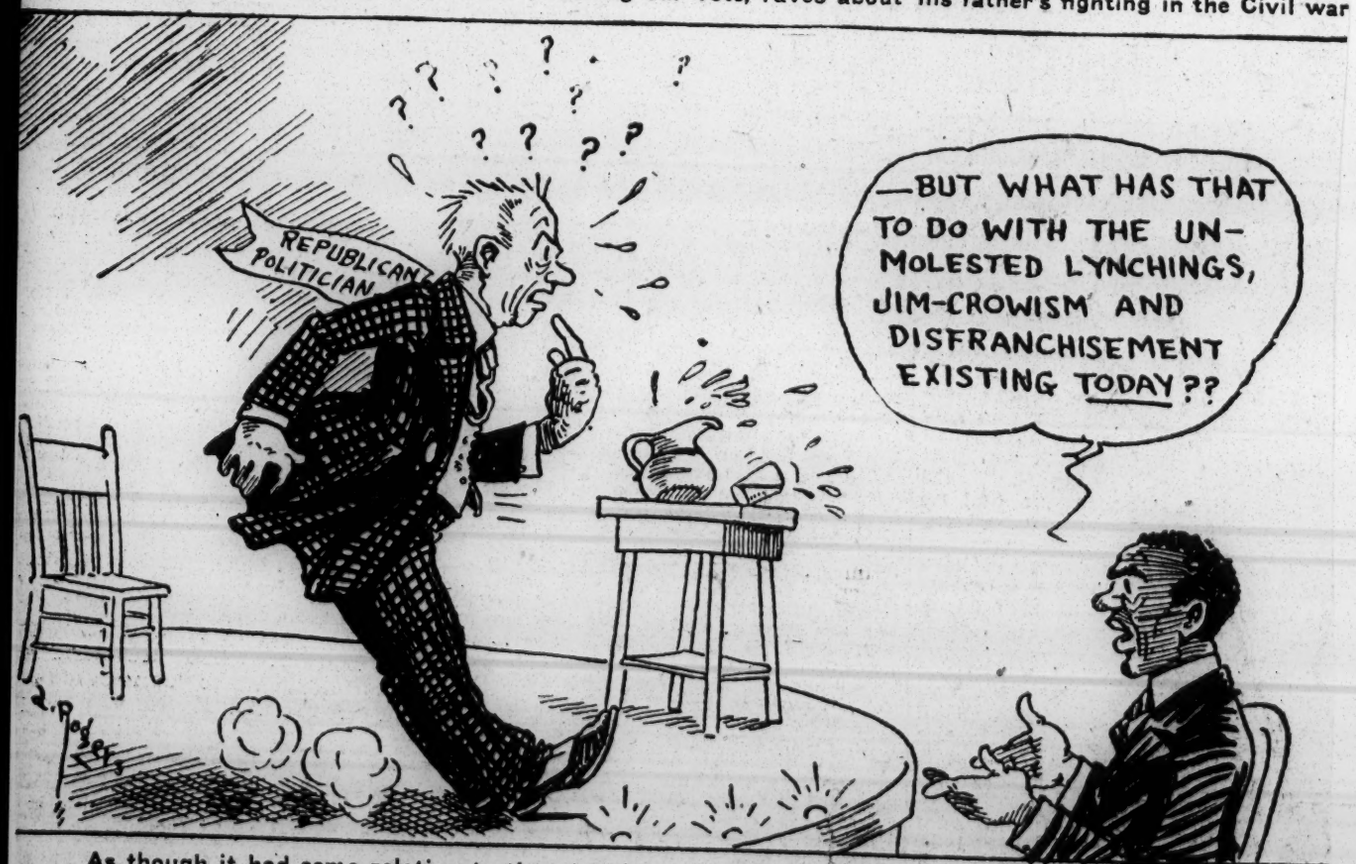
We Fail to See the Connection

Chicago Defender 3/4/22



The old reactionary Republican politician, seeking our vote, raves about his father's fighting in the Civil war



As though it had some relation to the stopping of lynching, jim-crowism and disfranchisement.

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VIEWS and REVIEWS

By James Weldon Johnson, Contributing Editor.

New York Age 5/6/22

A CLEARCUT POLITICAL ISSUE.

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill has been injected in two northern states as a political issue. In Michigan Representative Kelley is making a contest for the seat now held by Senator Townsend of that state. Representative Kelley was the only member of Congress from the state of Michigan who voted against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill when it passed the House last January. Mr. Kelley's record on the Anti-Lynching Bill was communicated to all its branches in Michigan by the N. A. A. C. P., and his action made an issue. One of the results has been that both Michigan senators, Townsend and Newberry, have come out strongly for the Anti-Lynching Bill and pledged their support of the measure.

In the state of New Jersey Representative Parker is running for reelection to Congress. Mr. Parker was the only member of Congress from the state of New Jersey who voted against the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. The same steps were taken with regard to Mr. Parker.

The Anti-Lynching Bill is a clearcut issue and one far above petty politics. It is an issue which the colored voters of the country should force to the limit. It is one by which we should determine those who are friendly to us and those who are unfriendly. Using the Anti-Lynching Bill as an issue places within our hands a means of showing whether our citizenship and our votes have any power whatever.

In November thirty-three senators come up for reelection, thirty of them from states where colored citizens vote. In nine states electing ten senators (because two are to be elected in Pennsylvania) colored voters hold or very nearly hold the balance of power. The Republican platform adopted in June, 1920, clearly stated, **"We urge Congress to consider the most effective means to end lynching in this country which continues to be a terrible blot on American civilization."** On April 12, 1921, President Harding in his message to Congress declared **"Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy."**

The Republican party is pledged to anti-lynching legislation. The President is pledged to it by his recommendation to Congress. The Senate of the United States is Republican by a majority of more than twenty. The colored people in the voting states have a right to hold the party and the present Senate responsible for this legislation. If the Republicans in the Senate wish to pass this Bill they can do it. If they allow it to die it will be because they did not want to pass it.

Colored voters all over the country ought to let the Republicans in the Senate know that they understand the situation and cannot be humbugged.

Southern Bishops Oppose Dyer Bill

Afro-American Baltimore Md. 5/27/22

(Preston News Service)

Hot Springs, Ark., May 10—A part of the address of the bench of Bishops to the 19th quadrennial session of the M. E. Church South, was devoted to the relations of the white and colored races, and urged methodist people everywhere to do everything possible for the education and uplifting of Negroes and to see that they had complete justice and protection in the exercises of their lawful rights.

The Bishops opposed the legislation now pending in Congress which would bring lynching within the province of the Federal Government. They declare, "It is hoped that the states will continue to legislate against the shameful crime of lynching."

BROOKLYN N Y EAGLE

MAY 24, 1922

LODGE AND AN ANTI-LYNCHING BILL.

Washington correspondents credit Henry Cabot Lodge with a firm determination to put through the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill if possible, and if not, at least to force a hot debate in the Upper House on the measure which the Lower House has passed. The Massachusetts Senator will have the support of a number of other Republicans who anticipate hard fights to retain their seats when November comes on. Curiously enough, Senator Borah, who is chairman of the committee considering the measure, takes the ground that it is unconstitutional, which was The Eagle's idea when the bill was first outlined. It makes failure of peace officers or sheriffs to protect a prisoner a felony under United States law. It also fines a town or county in which a lynching takes place $10,000 for the benefit of the victim's family. Incidentally it would have to be enforced by juries of the vicinage, and even if it met court tests might, therefore, be a dead letter.

Lodge hasn't changed so much in thirty years. In the Fifty-first Congress, made famous by counted quorums, Tom Reed's satire and Buck Kilgore's heavy foot, the Lodge Federal Elections Bill was even more bitterly discussed than McKinley's Tariff Bill. Even then the Nahant statesman's eye was tearfully surveying injustices in the Sunny Southland. He saw the negro vote suppressed. He wanted the United States to take over the regulation of elections of members of Congress. The Senate killed his bill,

Practically all the negroes look to the United States to stop lynching. They are not students of constitutional law like Mr. Lodge, but whether mere talk will convince them of the good faith of the Republican party is very doubtful. They have had too much talk and too little action in the past.

Does The Senate Mean Business?

Baltimore Md. Afro-American 4/21/22

The Republican Party Platform adopted June 10, 1920 stated:

"We urge Congress to consider the most effective means to end lynching in this country which continues to be a terrible blot on American civilization."

Following up the pledge of the party President Harding on April 12, 1921 declared in his first message to Congress:—

"Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy."

Quite two months ago the House of Representatives took the first step towards carrying out the party's pledge and the President's request by passing the Dyer-Anti Lynching Bill which was sent to the Senate for action.

Just now the fate of the Dyer Bill rests with a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Both sub-committee and committee must report it favorably before the Senate can take proper action. Meantime the days pass and the June adjournment of Congress draws closer and closer.

Does the Senate mean business? If so why does it not order the Dyer Bill reported and pass it? This is no time for delay and debate. It is time to redeem a pledge which it is in honor bound to carry out and at once.

2ND DYER HEARING AT MASS. STATE HOUSE

Boston Mass Guardian 4/15/22

Strong Arguments and Pleas Made to Joint Committee of Mass. House and Senate—Resolve of Equal Rights League in Print.

On Thursday morning the Joint Committee on Constitutional Law of the Massachusetts Legislature gave a hearing on House Resolve No. 1519, for resolutions by the Mass. Legislature to the U. S. Senate to pass the Dyer Bill. A very earnest, well conducted and able representation was made for this petition of the National Equal Rights League, conducted by Rep. Julius Meyers who presented this original petition.

SECRETARY B. F. SELDEN

Who Told Mass. Legislative Committee Just How the German Prisoners Under Him Drew Blackboard Pictures of An American Lynching As Silent Propaganda. Publicity Chairman for Trotter Testimonial Meeting and Church Chairman for Trotter Purse.

Those who spoke were Rev. W. D. MacClane, executive chairman of the Boston Branch; J. P. Goddard of the State Treasurer's office; Walter Foster, Esq., Wm. D. Brigham of the League, and Secretary of the Wendell Phillips Memorial Association, B. F. Selden of the Boston Y. M. C. A., E. T. Morris, W. M. Trotter, and Miss Dowling, another caucassion friend. Only one appeared to oppose, a Mr Bernstead. The arguments and pleas went in from every angle and a favorable report is assured.

—EDITOR'S JUBILEE—

'Book Will Show Roosevelt Stand on Lynch Evils

Mrs. Corinne Roosevelt Robinson in her book, "My Brother, Theodore Roosevelt," repeats the story of the speech made by that famous brother in 1905 at Little Rock, Ark., that fits in at this time in the campaign for the Dyer anti-lynching bill, writes Dunbar Milner to the Chicago Defender.

The governor of the state, when he introduced Col. Roosevelt to an immense audience, said: "We have an unwritten law in the Southland that when a vile black wretch commits the unmentionable crime we hang him without judge or jury."

As Theodore Roosevelt rose to speak he turned to the governor and said:

"Before I make my address to the people, governor, I want to say to you that when any man or set of men take the law into their own hands and inflict summary punishment on the 'vile black wretch' of whom you speak they place themselves upon the same base level as that same 'vile black wretch.'"

It is said that the great audience, while they were stunned into silence for a moment, burst into vociferous applause.

What Ails The Senate

Baltimore Md. Afro-American 4/21/22

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill still reposes in the files of the Sub Committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Meantime the June recess of Congress draws nearer and nearer.

This Sub-Committee of the Senate is both good and bad. Its members are Senator Borah, chairman, Senators Dillingham, Sterling, Shields and Overman. The first three are Republicans, and the last two Democrats.

The Democratic Senators can be counted upon to oppose the measure, first because it is a part of the Republican platform and advocated by President Harding, and second because they both represent Southern states. Senator Overman is from North Carolina, and Shields from Tennessee.

A harder fighter cannot be found than Senator Borah, if he is interested in a cause. Unfortunately he, and the other Republican members of the Committee are from states with small colored populations. Senator Borah is from Idaho, Dillingham from Vermont, and Sterling from South Dakota. This same thing holds true of all the Republican members of the Judiciary Committee except Senator Ernst, who is from Kentucky.

This explains why it seems as hard to get the Dyer Bill reported to the Senate, as will be to get the Senate to pass favorably upon it.

Here are the steps, before the Bill can be acted upon by the Senate.

A—The Sub-Committee must report the bill favorably to the whole Committee.

B—The Whole Judiciary Committee must report it favorably to the Senate.

C—The Senate must pass the Bill.

Unless the first two steps are taken in the near future, chances for getting the Bill thru the Senate this session are lessened.

These are the facts, and the slowness with which the Sub Committee, the Senate and the Republican Party are handling this Bill at present indicates that they are not sufficiently aroused to put it thru. This is true despite the fact that the Republican party in its platform adopted June 19, 1920 stated:

"We urge Congress to consider the most effective means to end lynching in this country, which continues to be a terrible blot on American civilization."

On April 21, President Harding in his first message to Congress declared:

"Congress ought to wipe the stain of barbaric lynching from the banners of a free and orderly representative democracy."

We hold President Harding, the Senate, and the whole Republican party responsible for the passage of the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill. The Party pledged it. The President recommended it. The House voted it. The Senate has put it in a pigeon hole.

What ails the Senate. Does it know that 30 of its members are to be re-elected this November. Does it know that if it fails to pass the Dyer Bill this session, it is playing with its colored constituents, and that they will regard themselves as tricked and betrayed by the party for which they have consistently voted for a half century?

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A THREATENED REIGN OF TERROR.

Within fifteen days, that is to say from May 6 to May 20, eight Negroes have been lynched, six of them burned at the stake and two of them hanged. Five of these burnings took place in the state o fTexas and one in the state of Georgia. Both hangings took place in the state of Texas. We have here an intolerable situation for a civilized country, a situation which cannot be allowed to continue. New York Age 5/27/22

The Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, which seeks to remedy this situation is now pending in the Senate. Newspapers report that the State Committee on Judiciary, which has the Bill in hand, will report it unfavorably. The members of the Committee are quibbling over the constitutionality of the measure and while they are quibbling mobs are continuing to defy and overthrow the law and to heap shame and disgrace upon the Nation.

What does the Senate of the United States propose to do about it? Does the Senate feel that it can throw of its responsibility by merely saying the bill is unconstitutional? Is it enough for the Senate to say that the question involved is a matter of States' rights and should be left to the States? The fact is, certain States at least have proved beyond all doubt that they are incapable of dealing with the form of crime to which this Bill relates.

The duty of the United States Senate, at this moment, transcends the splitting of hairs over the questions of constitutionality. The Senate is faced by grim and terrible conditions and not by theories. What sort of statesmanship is it which says that according to the theories of our Constitution the States should be left to deal with conditions which they have shown themselves powerless to deal with?

The irony of the situation is that the members of the Judiciary Committee have, at sometime in their lives, been lawyers of one sort or another and in considering this measure, which they are ready to declare unconstitutional, they are not looking at the Constitution itself but at a long series of decisions laid down by various judges. They are looking upon these decisions as a heathen looks upon a fetish, that is with superstitious awe and reverence, a reverence which they do not merit.

Anybody who knows the history of the Fourteenth Amendment and Bill of Rights knows also that the highest Courts of the land immediately brought into play all of the intellectual hair-splitting and sophistry that technical interpretation of law affords to nullify those measures. Any man of common sense reading the Fourteenth Amendment can see that it was theintention of Congress in passing it to protect the Negro in his newly acquired rights as freedmen. Congress rightly considered that these rights could not be left to the mercies of the government of those States in which the Negro had lately been a slave. The Amendment was passed and carried with itself the power of Congress to enforce it by appropriate legislation. The meaning is plain. It is only to a lawyer, lost in the mazes of legal constructions which were primarily designed to weaken, nullify and defeat the Amendment, that the meaning becomes vague and indefinite.

The present situation places another responsibility upon the Senate. As I stated above, within two weeks eight Negroes have been lynched, six burned at the stake. If the Senate declares or admits that it can do nothing to remedy this condition of anarchy it will be tantamount to issuing a license to mobs that they can, with impunity, lynch and burn alive Negroes who are accused of crime and the probabilities are that there will follow a reign of terror, of bloodshed and of degenerate savagery.

The colored people of the United States are today looking and wondering if there is not sufficient statesmanship in the American Congress to avert this threatened reign of terror. If they find there is not, if they find that the Government to which they have always given loyal allegiance cannot protect them in the most elementary and fundamental rights of citizenship, cannot protect them even in the constitutionally guaranteed right of a trial by due process of law, who could blame them if they questioned whether it was a Government worth serving, worth fighting for and dying for.

Anti-Lynching Bill Will Probably Die In Senate Committee

Atlanta Am. Constitution 3/30/29

BY SAM W. SMALL.

The strong probability is that the Dyer "anti-lynching bill," so-called, will die of suffocation in a senate committee room.

It passed the house in response to the urgent demands of a lot of negroes and negrophiles who are able to excite and direct the negro voters in certain debatable congressional districts in the eastern and middle western states. But I am told by senators on both sides of the chamber that they see no necessity and feel no particular partisan urge to bring the bill into that forum.

* * * * *

The most notable constitutional lawyers with whom I have talked are fairly unanimous in the belief that, should the bill ever be enacted, the supreme court of the United States would promptly and probably without a dissenting voice, declare it unconstitutional, null and void.

When this treatment of lynching by federal legislation and judicial action began to be agitated three years ago, Hon. Elihu Root was quoted as having said in a public speech that where a state had authority to legislate on a subject matter and refused or failed to do so in a way to conserve the general welfare then the federal government could assume authority to do the work.

That was so surprising a statement that I wrote to Mr. Root and asked him to verify it. and justify it, or repudiate it.

In reply he wrote to me as follows: "I never delivered any address in which I declared in effect that when a state has a right to legislate for the public welfare and refuses or fails to exercise that right it is the duty of the federal government to perform the act.

"Such a doctrine would be wholly inconsistent with our system of government and finds no basis whatever in the constitution of the United States."

As Mr. Root is a chief mahatma of the republican party, his view of this matter should be weighty in defeating the Dyer dervishes.

* * * * *

The republicans generally profess 100 per cent. devotion to the doctrines of their demi-god, Alexander Hamilton. By that token they should be guided by his view of this very question. In the New York convention to consider the proposed federal constitution the question was raised as to how far the federal authority could usurp the existing authority of the several sovereign states.

Hamilton replied, as reported in 1 Elliott 321, as follows:

"The acts of the United States therefore will be absolutely obligatory, as to all the proper objects and powers of the general government. The states as well as individuals, are bound by these laws. But the laws of congress are restricted to a certain sphere; and when they depart from this sphere, they are no longer supreme or binding. In the same manner, the states have certain independent powers, in which their laws are **supreme**; for example, in making and **executing** laws concerning the punishment of certain crimes—such as murder, theft, etc.—the **state can not be controlled.**"

* * * * *

Back in 1842 an endeavor was made in congress to enact that aliens committing crimes against a state's laws could transfer their cases into federal courts and, under certain specified pleas, demand a discharge.

That bill was ably championed and more ably opposed. In the senate giant intellects grappled in debate, but the defenders of state rights won the battle and the bill was defeated. It was there set up as unalterable American doctrine that the states, whoever may be the offender, can alone pass laws and affix the punishment for all offenses against a state, and that otherwise was not the intention of the constitution; that congress had never claimed such power and no federal judge had ever pretended that it could be granted.

Yet now, again, these Dyerites are claiming that the states can not execute their own laws, and that they may be superseded and controlled by the federal tribunals.

In other words the Dyer bill seeks to indict a whole state—government and people—and penalize them drastically by federal power.

* * * * *

Chief Justice John Marshall, presiding in the trial of Aaron Burr, delivered his opinion to the effect that the state courts have exclusive jurisdiction over all offenses by all persons against their laws.

In 1st Wheaton, 377, Justice Johnson said: "The uncontrollable exercise of criminal jurisdiction is most securely confided to the state tribunals." . . . "The courts of the United States are vested with no authority to scrutinize into the proceedings of the state courts in criminal cases."

And in 2 Peters, 102, the supreme court of the United States decided the following principles:

"A state has the same undeniable and unlimited jurisdiction over all persons and things within its territorial limits as any foreign nation, where that jurisdiction is not surrendered or restrained by the constitution of the United States.

"That all those powers which relate to merely municipal legislation, or what may, perhaps, more properly be called **internal police**, are not thus surrendered or restrained; and that, consequently, in relation to these the authority of the state is complete, unqualified and **exclusive.**

"To illustrate: no one will deny that a state has a right to punish **any** individual found within its jurisdiction, who shall have committed an offense within its jurisdiction, **against** its criminal laws."

* * * * *

But why elaborate, or continue to quote from the unbroken line of authorities?

If there is any fundamental principle of American governmentalism that is fixed beyond recall it is that the federal government can not travel

outside its enumerated powers, and that in all other matters of policy and police the several states remain sovereign and uncontrollable by federal legislation.

In all the above relation of facts and decisions there is no purpose to defend the brutal and barbaric act of lynching an alleged or known criminal, already captured and who can be held safely in reach of the law and its penalties.

Any state can make lynching odious and perilous to all concerned in it, if it so wills. If it does not so will, no federal power exists to coerce or punish it.

THE DYER BILL

Atlanta Ga. Independent

3/23/22

The record being made in our state is proof positive of the necessity of the Dyer Bill or some other effective legislation that will afford and guarantee to the citizens protection to life, liberty and property. The argument that the Dyer Bill is unconstitutional and will invade the police powers of the state, falls flat when construed in the light of the record being made in Georgia by the lawless element.

The Federal Constitution guarantees to every state a republican form of government. A republican form of government not only means government by the consent of the governed; it means full and adequate protection to every citizen in the enjoyment of his life, happiness and prosperity without molestation; it is the duty of the federal government to intervene and provide such state with a republican form of government. It may be distasteful to all law-abiding citizens to have the federal government interfere in state matters; but when the state, through its officers, sits idly by and winks at the murdering of its citizens and the destruction of their property, it is time, without regard to the sensibilities of any class of citizens, for the federal government to step in and enforce the mandates of the Constitution.

That lawlessness in Georgia is largely in the saddle and that nothing is being done to check it, is evidenced by crime every week. Murder by mobs is on the ascendency instead of the decrease, and Sunday seems to be the day which the mobs have selected to perform their nefarious and bloody crimes. It was just last Sunday at Durham, Georgia, where two white men stepped from the train, and in cold blood, shot a faithful officer dead in his tracks for no reason whatever other than they heard he was in possession of a warrant for them for illicit distilling.

The government is spending millions each year to run down violators of the prohibition law, while murder by mob is increasing in every section of the country. In America, it is a greater crime to sell a pint of whiskey than it is to take a human life. Negroes are being mobbed in this state for committing no crime at all, as was the case at Harlem, Georgia, a few Sundays ago. A Negro shot at a white man and did not even touch him, yet he was taken from the officers, hung to a limb of a tree until dead, and nothing was done about it and nothing will be done about it. At Winder a few days ago an innocent Negro preacher was taken from his home and lashed inhumanly upon his naked back, simply for preaching the gospel of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ as he understood it; but nothing has been done about it.

The Independent could not better express its views or warn the people of Georgia that the Dyer Bill or some other remedial bill must be enacted or the government will be overthrown by the lawless element among us than to quote from the Madisonian, a weekly publication published in Madison, and one of the most reputable weeklies in our state. The Madisonian is a newspaper fifty-six years old and has always stood for law and order, and under the caption of "NOTHING WILL BE DONE," it discusses pointedly lawlessness in the state and appeals to Governor Hardwick to drive the lawless element from among us by putting on and pressing to successful conclusion a vigorous campaign of law and enforcing it along all lines in our proud old state.

We all love Georgia and regret to see her fair name dragged in the mire of lawlessness by mob law in the state. The Madisonian remarks:

The Madisonian ventures the statement that the recent case in Barrow county, in which a Negro preacher was beaten and otherwise maltreated by masked white men on the pretext that he was preaching Catholicism will go the way of all other such cases—nothing will be done about it. But something should be done about it.

It was just a few months ago in our adjoining county of Oconee that a small party of white men—rough-neck bootleggers—went to the homes of Geo. Lowe and Wes Hale, two of the most worthy Negroes in the county, who had been living at the same place for seventeen years, burned off one's feet—tortured him to death—and when the other jumped up to run, his body was riddled with shot in the back. The only charge against them was helping another Negro to escape—which charge was later found to be untrue. And all this at noon on a Lord's Day.

Down in Schley county the charges against the white men who murdered Will Jones, a Negro of good character and standing, who had committed no crime whatever, has been reduced in degree, and nothing will ever come of it.

In our neighboring county of Oglethorpe a few nights since two mere youths belonging to good families tanked up on "shine" and started out for a joy ride. Within a few miles of the Classic City of Athens they came upon a Negro man walking, and when he refused to get more liquor for them, one of them whipped out a pistol and killed him. No arrest has been made, and inasmuch as the youth belonged to a prominent family, nothing will doubtless ever be done with him.

Down at Harlem a few nights ago a negro shot at a white man, inflicting no wounds of any consequence. He was taken from officers and lynched. The chances are nobody will ever be punished for this crime.

If the Dyer Bill becomes a law and we have federal intervention in the administration of our laws we will have nobody to blame but ourselves. We have invited it.

Georgia needs some good strong leadership just at this time. We only wish Governor Hardwick would sponsor a vigorous campaign of law enforcement all along the line in Georgia.

It is earnestly hoped and the Independent joins the Madisonian and all the law-abiding people in the state in calling on the Governor to make good what he said to the innocent, helpless Negro preacher who had been beaten nearly to death, when he called on him for protection. The Governor is quoted as having said to the preacher, "If you desire to return to Winder and finish your church, though I do not advise it, I will give you every protection of the law. I will order the sheriff to summon a posse and protect you, and if necessary, I will use the militia and every power of the state to afford you protection and to put down lawlessness among us."

None but a brave man could have made such a pronunciamento, and the Independent believes that the Governor has the moral courage to carry out his convictions. The murdering and lynching of Negroes in the state as a pastime will only lead to the murdering and lynching of white men in the state as a pastime. Crime, like Justice, has no eyes. A criminal does not pick his people; he will move against the white man as quick as he will against the black, when it serves his purpose.

Let us have the enforcement of the law. We commend the Governor for his brave words and will tender him every support within our power, if he will put them into execution. The life and property of every citizen in Georgia, without regard to race or color, are threatened by mob law, when white men can ride along the road and shoot Negroes down for nothing; when white mobs can go to the officers, as was done at Kite, Georgia, a few days ago, and take a prisoner from them, keeping him in the woods, torture and punish him in every inhuman way and when then return him to jail with life in his body and nothing be done about it. It will not be long before they will treat white men the same way. Crime begets crime and lawlessness begets lawlessness, and the authorities, both state and national, are sowing to the wind when they sit idly by, as Nero fiddled when Rome burned, and wink at crime. What right have we to complain of the massacres of the Jews in Armenia so long and Soviet Russia, so long as we murder our own people without charge or trial, burn them at the stake and put them to death by all sorts of cruelty? If we would preach the grace of God to others, we must first wash our own hands and clear our own conscience to Him.

The Dyer Bill is a necessity and the government must intervene by the Dyer Bill or some other measure or our government will be overthrown.

History discloses the fact that every government, whether it was a monarchy, an empire or republic, that cheapened human life; that denied to a part of its citizens the protection of the law in common with all other citizens, fell and destroyed itself by reason of its own sins.

Let us hope that the administration at Washington will enforce the plain mandates of the Constitution, if it is necessary to accomplish this purpose by use of the militia. Let our brave Governor, who is doing so much to place the state upon a sound and sane financial basis, use some of his power and genius to protect life, happiness and property, or all of his work for a sane and sound financial basis will be naught. Unless life is safe and the pursuits of happiness are secure, there can be no lasting and permanent economical, industrial and financial basis. So long as the social fabric is threatened by mob law, just so long will every phase of our government be unstable and shaky. Let us hope that the Dyer Bill will be passed at an early date. Let Congress cut out politics and pass the bill as a protection to the lives of the citizen body.

Lynchings — 1922
Legislation

Dyer Bill (National)

PEORIA ILL. JOURNAL
MARCH 23, 1922

THE INFAMY OF LYNCHING.

The lynching this week of two persons, one Negro and one white man, brings up the anti-lynching bill for consideration.

Lynching has become one of the American disgraces. It is not confined to the South, although most of the lynchings are there, and has been conspicuous even in Illinois. Men of different races are lynched, and the mobs range from illiterates to persons of supposedly high intelligence.

Officials charged with the responsibility of guarding prisoners, and who permit a mob to take prisoners from their keeping, should be punished by the federal government, provided they did not make every effort to do their duty. Those who participate in a lynching should be punished by long imprisonment and the punishment should be meted out in the United States courts so that local feeling may not interfere with justice. Counties which permit a lynching should be compelled to forfeit a considerable sum to the family of the victim.

Many states have laws dealing with lynchings—but state laws are not adequate. More than 3,000 lynchings have taken place in the United States since 1885, notwithstanding anti-lynching laws which have been on the statute books of many states.

THE SOUTH NO HOTBED OF RACE HATRED.

PORTSMOUTH, VA. STAR
MARCH 5, 1922

Burning of human beings at the stake and other cruelties practiced by lynching mobs are, of course, a disgrace to civilization. Lynching itself is indefensable, as a practice, and it is not excused by the press of the South. Every instance of mob law has been severely rebuked by Southern newspapers and every officer who makes proper efforts to avert these fierce outbursts of human passion, inspired by vengeance for some terrible crime, is commended.

It is, therefore, unpleasant to read in the New York Times' Current History Magazine an article denominating lynching as "the favorite sport" in certain sections of the South. It is unpalatable to read that Southern Congressmen seem to regard the Dyer anti-lynching bill as a studied insult to the South.

These things are all the more disagreeable, in the light of the animus of the article by Charles Frederick Carter, which singles out some of the worst instances of alleged Southern lynchings—instances which may or may not be true, the record is not clear—and yet omits all mention of the disgraceful affairs in Chicago, East St. Louis, Washington and other cities that are certainly not "Southern."

The difference between the Northern and Western lyncher and the Southerner seems to be that the former visits upon every negro he can find vengeance for whatever offence has been committed by a negro. The innocent and the guilty suffer alike—or, what is most likely, the guilty escape while the innocent suffer because they are members of the same race.

In the South even a mob will try to make sure it has the right man before inflicting punishment upon him. There is no insensate persecution of all members of the criminal's race who happen to fall into the hands of a mob.

Judged by these facts, where does the greater race hatred prevail? In the North and West, the record shows that crimes committed by negroes result in punishment being inflicted upon any and all members of that race indiscriminately. Moreover, these crimes are usually the excuse for a certain hoodlum element, which finds the negro in competition with it, to attempt to drive him out by burning and killing.

In the South the negro is safe, even in those communities where there are most lynchings, so long as he behaves himself. Negroes of good character are not molested. There is no race hatred, except that which is sown by such writers as the one whose article in the Current History magazine is here referred to, and those badly advised men who are constantly trying to stir up in the negro a sense of injustice. The seditious newspapers printed in New York and Chicago for circulation among a certain element of negroes have also done much to make them unhappy and to incite the weak-minded to crimes which have added further to the lynching record.

So far as the Dyer anti-lynching bill, for which, despite editorial disclaimer by The Times, the article by Mr. Carter is a special plea, is concerned, it will do more to increase lynching than any other cause whatsoever. It will embolden a certain type of negro, whom respectable and law-abiding members of the race are trying to hold in leash to feel that he has special warrant to do as he pleases, to insult women and to break the law, feeling that he will be protected in some manner by the federal government.

The way to stop lynching is not to enact federal statutes against it, but it is to help the earnest colored people who are trying to educate their race against crime and sin; to work for speedy justice and to discourage the mob spirit wherever it manifests itself.

To stir up a sense of wrong on the part of negroes who are not criminal and who are in no possible danger, to do what the Dyer bill will inevitably accomplish in the cases of less worthy members of the race, and to create the impression that the South is made up of men who hate negroes, and who are glad of opportunities to put them to cruel deaths, is decidedly the wrong way. It is, in fact, the surest method of making a very bad matter much worse.

1096

SAN FRANCISCO CAL CALL
MARCH 14, 1922

"Looking Interestedly On"

THIS week the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—whose press service sends uncomfortable news over the country—accused Senator Overman of North Carolina of having "looked interestedly on" during the lynching of three Negroes taken from the Rowan County jail in North Carolina. The senator is a member of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary which is considering the Dyer anti-lynching bill, passed January 26 by the House of Representatives, and is supposed to be "bitterly opposed" to the bill.

The colored association says that a mob "broke into Rowan jail while Judge Long was there with a governor's high commission to hold a special court, took six Negroes from the jail, lynched three, and without enough interest to wear masks, save the brute faces of the several executioners, and got away with it while Judge Long, Congressman Hammer, Congressman Kluttz, United States Senator Overman, Sheriff Julian, thirteen special deputies and the Rowan Rifles looked interestedly on."

This will "amaze" some people who feel so deeply for the sufferings of an oppressed race that they forget that judges, congressmen, senators and sheriffs depend for their political success on the votes of North Carolinans who think that lynching is "the only way to keep the Negroes in their place."

MILWAUKEE WIS. LEADER
MAY 13, 1922

ANTI-LYNCHING LEGISLATION

The Dyer anti-lynching bill should interest labor. Out of the four thousand odd persons who have been lynched in this country, it would be difficult, indeed, to name a capitalist. The fury of the mob is spent on the worker, black and white. It's the exception that a capitalist like Leo Frank is victimized. It is invariably the workers, like Frank Little of Butte, Mont. Over 1,000 white workers have been lynched in this country since 1883. So thoroughly has the virus of capitalist propaganda seeped through the souls of the workers that they lynch each other and think nothing of it.

This thing must stop, and labor must stop. It is a blow at the very heart of working class solidarity. In the coming workers' conventions in May, June and July, lynching should be roundly and unequivocably condemned, the Dyer anti-lynching bill indorsed, resolutions adopted and sent to the senate and the president, urging them to pass this measure. This will do much toward drawing together, in a bond of brotherhood, the black and white workers. Let the American Federation of Labor, the Industrial Workers of the World and the independent labor organizations show their class-conscious colors by dealing a mortal blow to America's greatest crime—lynching. The Negro workers should urge the necessity of this measure upon their unions.—The Messenger.

LOUISVILLE KY HERALD
MAY 11, 1922

MOB MURDER MUST BE ABATED.

On January 26 the House of Representatives passed the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill, a bill which invokes the power of the Federal Government to curb and correct the nation-wide infamy of mob murder. The bill is now in the Senate. It ought to be passed, and it is desirable that the citizenship make known to the Senate the earnestness and the emphasis with which a prompt enactment is desired.

We do not wish to refer in detail at this time to the last most ghastly incident of this kind. While it is fresh in the memory of all, and most abhorring because it is latest and newest, it does not differ in any essential particulars from other such crimes which have gone before. There is the same cowardice of the officials; the same mob readiness to exact the grimmest of vengeance on evidence incomplete and inconvincing; the same absence of any sense of responsibility. Nor is there any prospect of justice being done on the perpetrators. If we mention it at all, it is only as one more item in the cumulative body of evidence to prove that this legislation is needed and needed without delay.

Of all the contempt for law; of all the violations which in this day are the mark, so we are asked to believe, of a post-war period, there is none so callous, none so subversive of good government, none so fatal to the national morale as this. But it can not be accepted as a post-war symptom. As we all know it was a disgrace to America in a much earlier day, a disgrace which we had hoped and thought was by way of being wiped out.

We note appended to a petition presented to the Senate the names of some of the most distinguished and representative citizens of the land. In that list we mark with approval the Governor of the Commonwealth, the Episcopal Bishop of Kentucky, the Catholic Bishop of Covington, City Attorney Blakey and other prominent citizens. But it is not the names which give force or strength or urgency to this appeal. It is the cause.

How About the Anti Lynching Bill?

N Y C CALL
MAY 5, 1922

What has become of the Dyer anti-lynching bill? Passed many weeks ago by a large majority in the House of Representatives, it was sent promptly to the Senate, and there, to all intents and purposes, it has disappeared. This is the more surprising, as the committee to which it was referred, in the due order of business, has as its chairman no less a man than Senator Borah, who has sound instincts and right ideas on this question as in every other question involving humane deals. What is provided in the Dyer bill, it may be repeated, is the enactment of law making the crime of lynching a Federal offense. Experience has shown convincingly to the Negro and all his friends that lynching altogether escapes the control of the local community or even of the state in which it is committed. There are peculiar conditions, psychological as well as social, which make it impossible for local authorities to handle this monstrous evil. Even though they have the will, which in most cases they do not, they lack altogether the legal sanctions and the power to accomplish anything. As a result lynching has gone on steadily developing from year to year as a characteristic and apparently ineradicable phenomenon of American social life, to the shame and disgrace of the nation everywhere throughout the world.

To protect its own fair reputation, to say nothing of the lives of its citizens, it is time that the country should act in its Federal capacity—and it is just this that the Dyer Bill provides! What has halted the bill, it is impossible to say. Senator Borah is of course as incorruptible as he is fearless. The Republican party is committed to the measure, and has every good political reason for putting it through. It would seem as though, in the confusion which has so long been reigning at Washington, the bill has for the moment been lost sight of. If so, it is high time that its friends aroused themselves, and reminded the powers-that-be in the Capitol to bestir themselves. To this end, we urge our readers to write at once three letters—one to Senator Borah, who is now in charge of the bill, and one to each of the two senators of the state in which each reader resides. In addition a letter addressed direct to President Harding will do much good. Remember, this is by precept and practice an "ear-to-the-ground" administration! Expression of public opinion on pending legislation was never before so carefully watched. Let us act accordingly! —Unity.

Lynchings - 1922
Legislation

National (Dyer Bill)
7097

PROVIDENCE R I JOURNAL
AUGUST 3, 1922

EXAMPLES OF LYNCH LAW

The lynchings in Georgia and Arkansas on Tuesday may be said to be typical of the atrocious crime that it is the object of the Dyer bill to suppress by Federal authority. The two murdered men were negroes, but the offences with which they were charged were not of the character usually cited by Southern apologists for the exercise of mob vengeance.

The Georgia victim had been charged with slaying a deputy sheriff, and the Arkansas one had fatally shot a "prominent business man." The lynchings were the more inexcusable on any pretext because in both instances the men had been arrested by the police, their trial was certain and their hanging by judicial sentence probable. In the hands of the law they should have been under its protection pending its processes, to the end. The Georgia victim was taken from officers conducting him to jail. The Arkansas "mob of citizens" broke into the jail. City and State officers, we are told, "pleaded" with the mob. And also, "no official action against the lynchers is expected."

Statistics compiled in connection with the Senate committee's report favorable to the Anti-Lynching bill, which the House has already passed, show that the smaller percentage of cases where lynch law is invoked involve assaults on women. The record, indeed, discloses that of the 3224 persons known to have been lynched during the period of thirty years down to and including 1918, fifty were women. The larger number were negroes, of course, 2522. There were lynchings in the North and West, but the crime is epidemic in the South, 2834 of the reported cases being in that section. In 1919 the victims were 77 negroes, 4 whites and 2 Mexicans; in 1920, 59 negroes and 6 whites.

Georgia has the worst record of any State, the number of lynchings for the thirty-year period virtually equalling the total of all the rest of the country Georgians like to call themselves the "Yankees of the South," and the negro population is, generally speaking, higher in the economic scale than that of neighboring States—its substantial farmers and business men materially contributing by their aggregate taxes to the support of the commonwealth.

President Harding is For Dyer Bill

Topeka Plaindealer
8-18-22

But Expresses Opinion That Ship Sudsidy and Tariff Should Come First.

August 5, 1922

Hon. Warren G. Harding,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

We are one of the few editors of the Colored papers who pledged that if you were elected president of these United States you would strive to be the President of all the people and that you would attempt to carry out he pledges of the Republican Platform at Chicago in 1920 of which you went before the people aed stood four squares. The Colored people and all true Republicans and Democrats want the Dyer Anti-Lynching Bill passed. The platform declares for such legislation and know it your Christian duty to insist that the Senate pass the same.

They are lynching and burning Colored people in the South for the least provocation and nothing is said or done. Such outrages are a national calamity and the Governmena at Washington should suppress it. We think the human rights are just as sacred as those who ignore and violate ahe rules of orders of the Government and much valuable time is taken up by the President to satisfy their whims over the difference of a few cents. And yet a few millions of Colored people are standing with bowed heads praying that you might give them relief by keeping the faith and pledge of the Party. As editor we stood and declared to the world that you were the second Abraham Lincoln and we still believe you are but my people keep after me about my word. So now, Mr. President, please dont let my word fail. We are not looking for any potical preferrment, no favors, just justice and equaity at the law for my race. If you will push the Senate on the passage of the Dyer Bill as you have done on several other issues, relief will come. The time is now at hand for everyone to be compelled to abide by the law. Seccessionists and their sympathizers should have no part in our Civil Government. They rebelled in 1861 and they are still rebelling and are being adhered to. You have our best wishes and prayers. We were for you in the beginning and will stay to the end, feeling you have set the time to act.

Yours, truly,
Nick Chiles,
Editor, The Topeka Plaindealer, and President, Kansas Defense Society.

P. S.: We are asking Senator Capper to kindly hand this request to you.

August 5, 1922

Senator Arthur Capper,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator:

Will you kindly see that this letter reaches President Harding? All Kansas are with you and your good work in Washington. We hope you will encourage the President to encourage the Senate to pass the Dyer Anti-Lynch Bill. The Party pledged some kind of measure on this question, now let us keep our word. You will please read my letter to the President and let us have your approval or disapproval along with your criticism.

Yours truly,
Nick Chiles.

* * * *

Washington, D. C.,
August 8, 1922

Nick Chiles,
Topeka, Kansas.

My dear Nick:

I have your letter of August 5. I have today presented it to the President and urged him to press the anti-lynching bill. He is in entire sympathy with the measure but I think he has a feeling that the tariff and ship subsidy bill should have consideration ahead of all other measures.

With kind regards, I am,
Very respectfully,
Arthur Capper.

AMERICAN POLITICS AND THE BLACK MAN.

Star Union 9/21/22

The Nashville Tennesseean is grieved over the efforts of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People to have the Dyer Anti-lynching bill enacted into law. It bemoans the statement of Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, in whose state the annual meeting of the association was held, who, in a telegram told the convention: "I believe in this legislation.....It must and it will be enacted. I am doing all in my power to have the Dyer anti-lynching bill reported..... against opposition, etc."

The Tennesseean confesses that in Ohio, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Indiana, and Illinois, the Negro vote is a factor. "It would be impossible for the Republicans to carry at least three of them without that vote," says this same authority.

But what attracts our attention to this editorial of the Tennesseean is the following:

"But in injecting the race issue into the coming elections in this manner, the Negro leaders of the north are taking a dangerous step. They are emphasizing a race consciousness and attempting to bring about by force the passage of an act that is bound to revive racial prejudices and feeling that are better left to slumber.

The unfortunate part of it is that the self-appointed leaders of the race, who are living on the patrimony of Northern whites, will bring down about the heads of an entire race a punishment which they themselves will escape. They are attempting to stir up strife among peoples who are living in contentment and working together to bring about by education and common understanding a solution of a problem that the decent men and women of both races realize must be solved.

Another unfortunate thing is that agitation of this sort is fanned by well-meaning, perhaps, but misinformed whites of the north and east, whose sole knowledge of the Negro problem is what they have heard from the lips of those least competent to speak.

Senator Lodge may be in favor of the Dyer bill. It would be strange if he were not, in view of his consistent espousal of everything and anything that the south opposes. Senator Frelinghuysen may be for the Dyer bill. Senator James E. Watson, Senator Willis and Senator Calder may be for it. But these are politicians first and senators afterward.

But the people of the north, if we know them are no more for the Dyer bill than are the people of the south. They are as jealous of the police powers of their states as is Dixie. And if the Negro in the north takes no opposite view and threatens to do by force what he cannot do by argument, he will soon find out that he has a Negro problem on his hands there where none of the charity of the south will be tendered toward his race."

Strange doctrine this, in a land that is dedicated to the proposition that a government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from the earth."

Why the Negro has been the most lamb-like element in our body politic and has already too supinely submitted to the brutal unfairness dealt to him by politicians and color-phobists, and they are not all politicians of the north either.

The Tennesseean may be sincere in its attempt to intimidate the black man from thinking of state craft to help cure the ills we suffer in society and government, but it is wrong if it expects the Negro to heed it. What it states when the Tennesseean says: "people who are living in contentment" is only half true. The whites are content to have the Negroes in the south snugly out of the affairs of government. The Negroes are not content, save only the backward ones. And they are a minority of those either who are untrained and thinking nothing of the geart world that goes sweeping by them, or the chosen few who have jobs at the hands of white authorities who pass out positions with the string to them that the holders help to keep the rest of us gently back and let the whites do all the governing.

The northern Negro is just right and every influence he can claim should be used to help, not only pass the Dyer bill, but to effect better living conditions for the race every where.

They are called "self-appointed leaders of the race" by the Tennesseean. They are just what our Anglo-Saxon brothers have taught us to be by example. Anglo-Saxons have appointed themselves leaders of all they see and can possess by fair means or by force. They have had a reasonable success. Do they expect us to read history with no profit? We grant that they have won the lead by genius, arms and religion. We do not want them to have any less than the place they have won, but we will labor on to share reasonably and lawfully with them the government of the world that the Almighty Creator has bequeathed to all who are able and equipped to take their share.

The south will never consent to Negro leadership gratuitously. But in the Providence of God some people of the north, and a few in the south, are agitating and helping to lead the black man into his own by education, by a peaceful plodding, industry, by character and by good example. These the Tennesseean calls "well meaning, but misinformed whites." The false logic of this group of reasoners is that all who in any way ask for the Negroes' rights in the state and society are "misguided." It is the old play of the shrewd southerners to throw dust into the eyes of the world while they give the blacks a nominal freedom and hold them in quasi slavery.

All thinking men know that in a democracy a people who can not vote and share in their government is a people without the instrument of freedom and protection. What is the need of a name to be free when the great majority of the emancipated are subject to a new and more unsympathetic set of masters than those who formerly owned them? That is what we now have where the colored man does not vote. We do not suppose it well that the Negro raise a furor about it, but we know that it is fatal for him to accept any status other than that of free thinkers and responsible members of this great democracy. If the Negro is not prepared to vote and govern with those who own the property and have the intelligence, then it must be our purpose and should be the effort of the governing class at the south as well as the north to prepare him for citizenship and thus save the nation from the burning shame of denying him his rights and from the disgrace of mobbing him because he demands the rights of a citizen in peace in as much as he is a soldier in war and human all the while.

It may be of interest for those who think as the Tennesseean, to know that the Negro is by no means contented nationally with the Harding administration on this score. There is now a fomenting revolt all along the lines in the north, west and even in the south where the black man thinks, and this revolt is against the present regime at Washington for its, sly, shrewd policy of hushing the Negro up with promises, platitudes and politics while little for him is being done. To the old Negro, "the republican party is the ship, all else is the sea." Constitutionally the race is republican, but like all other Americans and naturalized foreigners he has learned by painful experience that political solidarity is a form of voluntary slavery. He will find his way out of this as he has out of all past slavery, if God who "hitherto has helped us" does not fail him. It is American politics that force race consciousness upon us whether we will or no. Sit Lux.

DYER SPEAKS ON LYNCHING

READING PA. TELEGRAM
AUGUST 14. 1922

ADDRESSES AUDIENCE AT Y. M.

"Organize for your own good, to eradicate the blot of lynching from your race, and to save your brothers and sisters in the southern states who are daily in fear of being lynched," was the mesage brought to local colored people by Congressman L. C. Dyer, of St. Louis, in a splendid address at the Y. M. C. A. yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Dyer is the author of the anti-lynching bill and is touring the northern states in the interests of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. This association is trying to get the bill on the floor of the Senate where it is practically certain to be passed.

The speaker did not hesitate to speak plainly at times. He told the audience that the colored people in the north were for a large part not doing their duty. He accused them of showing a lazy spirit in not doing all they can to remove from their race the danger of lynching.

"There are 12 million or more negroes in this country" he said, "the majority being in the southern states. During the last 30 years 4,760 negroes, more than 100 of them being women, were lynched. It is time that this outrage is stopped by the proper means.

"Your national association is working hard to get the legislation through the Senate which will insure the ending of lynching. Any colored person who is not an active, contributing member of this association is not worth his salt.

"In some places the negro is given no rights and privileges and from time to time a negro is lynched for the express purpose of cowing the race and holding them in subjection."

GERNERD PRESENT

Congressman Gernerd, who has taken an interest in the subject and voted for the bill in the House, introduced the speaker. "It did not require any appeal or petition to make me vote for this bill" he said. "Lynching is a blot on our civilization. Many an innocent negro is lynched. We have laws to punish the guilty persons and mob violence should be done away with."

Mr. Dyer was delayed in arriving and until he appeared there were musical selections. The program opened with the audience singing "America." Several songs were rendered by the Women's Federation of Colored clubs under the direction of Miss Mildred Templeton and a baritone solo was given by Arthur Gordon.

Mr. Dyer gave a good description of his bill. "At present," he said, "it is hard to get a grand jury to indict anyone for participating in a lynching. The sheriff is oftentimes in sympathy with the mob and he will see to it that one of the grand jurors is one who has been with the lynching party or knows all about it.

"The bill which I am presenting will put the authority in such cases into the hands of the United States court. When a lynching occurs and the county or state authorities do not prosecute the U. S. court will take it up. The U. S. marshal will go into the district and ferret out the persons implicated. A grand jury, composed of persons from distant counties, will be secured and the prosecution carried through.

"Furthermore, the authorities in the county concerned will be prosecuted and punished for their failure to uphold the law. The sheriff will be tried and if found guilty will be sent to the penitentiary. The county will have to pay the sum of $10,000 to each of four survivors of the person lynched. This will in itself have the effect of making the people cautious about committing lynchings."

DEPENDS ON REPUBLICANS

The speaker then said that the colored people must depend on the Republican party to carry through this legislation and protect them. He said that at the Republican convention in Chicago a plank was inserted in the platform calling for the stopping of lynching and that it will be carried through if the Republicans are given a majority in the House and Senate.

"How many colored people have you in Reading?" he asked. He was told there are about 900.

He then asked how many colored churches there were in the city and was told four. He asked whether the pastors of these churches were all at the meeting and when told that two of them were present he asked "Where are the other two?"

THROW THE MAYOR OUT.

The churches, he declared, should be vitally interested in the matter. Then he showed a large petition and read the name of Governor Sproul on it and a number of mayors in the state who had signed the petition. He asked whether the mayor of Reading was not interested enough to sign a petition and asked about the mayor's politics and when told that Reading's mayor is a Republican he said, "Well, then you had better throw him out and put in a Democrat next time."

Besides a large audience of colored people there were also a number of white people present. Included in the audience were several local ministers who expressed themselves as much interested in the topic.

PATERSON, N. J., CALL
SEPTEMBER 1. 1922

Upholds the Constitution.

The report to the senate by its judiciary committee recommending the passage, with certain amendments, of the house anti-lynching bill, is a voluminous document, which surveys the issue involved from every conceivable angle. The constitutional question, which is the principal one raised by those hostile to the measure, is examined exhaustively, and the committee declares itself as follows: "Whatever process of reasoning is adopted, or whatever provisions of the constitution are relied on, we hold that the proposed legislation is 'appropriate legislation' to cure or prevent the evil of lynching wherever in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof that evil exists."

The most forceful citation, of course, is that familiar clause of the fourteenth amendment reading, "Nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor to deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." By the final section of this amendment it is made mandatory on congress to enforce its provisions by "appropriate legislation." It seems a simple proposition that where life, liberty or property—in this connection the first—notoriously do not enjoy the equal protection of the laws, the federal government may and should intervene to remedy the failure or neglect of local authority. Court decisions and the opinions of distinguished publicists sustain this view.

Fundamentally, the anti-lynching bill seeks only to make effectual in every state the principle that American citizenship should be what by the law of the land it is presumed to be, a shield of protection as well as a badge of honor.

Lynchings — 1922.
Legislation.

National (Dyer Bill)

1098

State's Rights and the Lynching Bill.

Commercial Appeal
Memphis Tenn.
7-6-22

We are not in the least surprised at the news that Senator Lodge is leading the movement for the passage of the anti-lynching bill regardless of whether it is constitutional or not. No doubt he figures that the passage of the bill will be a blow to southern Democrats, and, if so he is consistent with the view he held when he tried to put his force bill through Congress some years ago. But he overlooks the fact that such an enactment will hit the east and middle west harder than it will the south because lynchings in those sections, as evidenced by events at Springfield, Ill., East St. Louis, Washington and very recently at Herrin, Ill., have been of the wholesale variety wherein the $10,000 penalty upon the county where a lynching occurs for every man lynched will amount to something.

But Senator Lodge and his partisan supporters are more concerned with the politics than with the statesmanship of the matter. They would show to the negro voters of the west and east that the Republican party continues to be their friend and being so is deserving of their votes. The bill is a vote-getter and nothing more, and its supporters hold the view that passage without regard to legality or constitutionality will be sufficient for the purpose to which it is intended.

In the light of the decision by the supreme court on the child labor law, it should appear plain to the advocates of the anti-lynching measure that their bill can not secure the approval of that tribunal. If it is contrary to the rights of the states for the national government to seek to prevent the enslavement of children in sweat-shop factories, it is surely much more antagonistic to state prerogatives for the general government to usurp the very basic and elemental powers of the states in the matter of preserving peace and order within their boundaries. We can not conceive how the supreme court could declare the anti-lynching bill to be consonant with the constitution and, therefore, we can not view the measure as being anything else than a political makeshift.

If Congress passes the bill, it will be an exhibition of cowardice rather than courage. It will be a surrender of the views of the majority of the congressmen to political expediency and there could be no precedent more menacing to representative government than an action of this sort. The legislative branch of this government can not do honor to itself by doing deliberately an obviously futile thing.

ANTI-LYNCH BILL REPORT AROUSES REPUBLICAN FEARS

Shortridge Insists on Making Full Report in Writing — Disagreeable to Others.

NEAR PANIC STARTED IN G. O. P.'S RANKS

Atlanta Constitution

Bill, as Passed By House, Would Be Involved in Situations Like That in Herrin, Ill.

7-6-22

Constitution Bureau, Raleigh Hotel.

Washington, July 5.—(By Constitution Leased Wire.)—Republican members of the senate judiciary committee who recently reported out the anti-lynching bill, already passed by the house, are beginning to find trouble with that measure.

The bill as originally proposed was directed solely against the south, but later developments have acted to make it bothersome nationally and from a number of angles. From this there is current gossip of grave fears among majority members of the senate as to what bearing the legislation will have on the November elections.

The eight republican members of the senate judiciary committee who voted favorably to report the measure intended for it to be brought quietly before the senate without the least possible disturbance. It is understood that only one member of the committee is really of the opinion that the measure is constitutional, the others acquiescing merely as a political expedient to hold the negro vote to administration leaders in the forthcoming primaries. Senator Shortridge, republican, California, was the one member who believed the measure constitutional. As a result of this he was chosen to make the report.

Determined on Report.

It has developed, however, that Senator Shortridge is determined to make a complete report, putting his arguments in writing and having them signed in the usual way before presentation to the senate. Nothing short of a panic has resulted from his decision. The California member is of the opinion that the bill should be drawn up with all details, setting out the reasons assigned to the committee's action in recommending the proposal. But this is exactly what the republicans do not want; nor was it expected.

Committee members declare they never will sign the report which Shortridge expects to have arranged by next Monday. They merely desire a verbal report submitted, with nothing to tie them down on the point of constitutionality.

When the anti-lynching bill is on the calendar, it is proposed to bring up and to go through the form of seeking to pass it. This will be a tedious undertaking because it will be bitterly opposed by all the democrats and a goodly number of republicans, led by Borah, Idaho.

These will seek to demonstrate that the proposed legislation is unconstitutional from every viewpoint.

Herrin Trouble Affected.

No consideration was given such massacres as that which occurred at Herrin, but it is admitted that the Illinois county would be accountable under the pending bill for payments of $10,000 cash to the relatives of those killed. The attention of organized labor leaders has been called to this fact and it is expected that much opposition will come from that quarter.

During debates before the judiciary committee inquiries were made of Senator Shortridge as to how such a law would affect the possible killings of objectionable Japanese in California, but he sidestepped the question.

The present program of Senator Lodge, the republican leader, is to pass the anti-lynching bill, if possible, and let the supreme court pronounce it unconstitutional. This would show the colored voters that the republicans had done all possible for their relief. If passage of the measure cannot be achieved some good speeches and an honest effort in that direction would help the situation in November.

Designed to Help G. O. P.

The truth of the situation, as viewed by political observers and by students of constitutional legislation, is that the bill was proposed in the house purely as a help to administration candidates in those districts and states in which a large negro vote is found. The measure was directed only at the south because of the insignificant republican strength in those states. However, there is no question but what the legislation would apply with even if not greater strength to lawless outbreaks such as that in Illinois recently, obesrvers believe. And it is further contended by the same thought that the California situation would be equally as applicable.

The question, then, instead of being confined to a section of the country not playing any important part in republican party affairs, embraces choice G. O. P. territory, which is said to be enough to spell defeat for the bill, this even in the face of Senator Lodge's plan.

Massachusetts not being affected particularly by the general situation and having a large negro population, Senator Lodge could afford with advantage to advance his program on the floor, yet believing all the while, as those who know him assert, that the measure would never stand the test of constitutionality.

Whether or not Senator Shortridge's fellow republican members of the judiciary committee can prevail upon him to relinquish his views on the necessity of writing a full report is a matter for the future to decide. Most likely he will give in. In this event, the bill, which already has the approval of the house, will find itself neatly tucked away in some abstruse piegeon-hole of the senate where it will perhaps remain like thousands of other purely partisan political measures.

ODOR OF BURNING HUMAN FLESH IS IN THE PURE FREE AIR WE BREATHE

St. Louis Argus

Tomorrow It May Be Our Brother, Our Father, Our Sister, Even Ourselves The Victim Of Maddened Race Prejudice

7-7-22

(By The Associated Negro Press)

DETROIT, MICH., July 5. —Pauline Smith, one of the Colored public stenographers of this city, has issued an address on the famed Dyer-Lynching Bill, which contains the following significant statement:

"We have tried the holding of conventions, the sending of blanket petitions to congress, the securing of "Personal interviews" with the "President" and are now trying the silent parade", which are all good and commendable as far as they go; but they do not go far enough. They do not cut deep enough, for they neither touch the white man's pocket-book nor our indulgence in pleasure and in luxuries. It had been said that "money talks". It is the medium of exchange in this world—and the only language that some people understand. But it is also a great outstanding truth that the one thing that outranks money in the minds and lives of men is "sacrifice." "Greater love hath no man than this, that man lay down his life for his friends." If we do not love our brethren in the bonds of race prejudice sufficiently to feel that we also are "bound with them", that it is almost sacrilege for us to go to shows and otherwise frolic and have "good time" while if our sympathies were keen enough we could sense through the pure free air that we breathe the odor of burning human flesh—flesh that is despised because its outward hue is black, then we have not gone to the uttermost in this matter. Besides, the necessity for self-preservation should impel us to leave the use of no weapon untried that may be effective in winning this battle. It is far away today, we think. But tomorrow, it may be our brother, our father, our sister, even ourselves who may be the victim of maddened race prejudice."

Defends Anti-Lynching Bill

N. Y. C. POST
JULY 6, 1922

New York Lawyer Upholds Constitutionality of Dyer Proposal

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EVENING POST:

SIR: Recent discussion of the obvious need for Federal anti-lynching legislation or an amendment to the Constitution to make it possible has centred about the Dyer anti-lynching bill, enacted last January 26 by a 230 to 119 vote in the House of Representatives and now before the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate. The wide distribution of Senator Borah's statement that the Dyer bill is unconstitutional prompts me to offer in opposition to it a summary from one of a number of briefs submitted to the Judiciary Committee sustaining the bill's constitutionality. The brief question has been submitted by Herbert K. Stockton of Haight, Smith, Griffin & Deming of New York City.

Mr. Stockton contends: (1) That the States do not give the equal protection of the laws provided for in the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution, "a fact susceptible of overwhelmingly convincing demonstration." "Inequality in administration is a denial of equal protection of the laws." Of such inequality Mr. Justice Brewer said: "Such an actual discrimination is as potential in creating a denial of equality of rights as a discrimination made by law." (2) "In forcing the State to afford the equal protection of the laws the Federal Government can act directly upon such individuals as are the agents of the State, and whose act or neglect constitutes the denial by the State of the equal protection." (3) The provisions of the Dyer anti-lynching bill are within the scope of decisions cited.

I should like to quote from the letter in which Mr. Stockton transmitted his argument to the Judiciary Committee: "I urge upon you the conclusion that you should not refuse to force this bill out of committee and urge its passage with all the power at your command, merely because neither you nor I can guarantee that the Supreme Court is going to take the view of this bill that I have set forth above. The bill is very ably drawn. It is probably the best bill that can be framed under the peculiarly artificial restrictions of our Constitution. It ought to be held constitutional by the Supreme Court. I think it is entirely true to say that the court *can* hold the bill constitutional on sound reasoning if it wants to. This is a case, therefore, where the problem ought to be put squarely up to the court; it is not a case of passing the responsibility to the court because the legislature does not want to incur the popular odium of refusing the remedial statute. . . . Even if the court should make vain your efforts it is tremendously important that the most representative body in the world *should go on record as opposing lynching and desiring to stamp it out.* At least the lyncher will no longer be able to say that the toleration he and his neighbors feel for his bloody sport exists also in Congress, which raises no protesting voice."

Senator Borah not only had this brief in his possession when he spoke, but he also had briefs by Moorfield Storey, formerly president of the American Bar Association; by William H. Lewis, formerly Assistant United States Attorney General, and other eminent lawyers. Furthermore, the Senator had seen a petition to the United States Senate urging the prompt enactment of the Dyer bill signed by a large group of jurists, which included justices of the highest courts in various States. For Senator Borah, under the circumstances, to attempt to give the impression that those who want the Dyer anti-lynching bill passed are in effect urging Senators to "lynch the Constitution" is nothing short of disingenuous.

Those who deny warrant in the Constitution for the Federal Government to protect its citizens within its own borders, when accused of crime, against trial and execution by the mob rather than by due process of law are not looking at the Constitution itself, but are lost in a maze of judicial decisions on the Constitution, decisions which, in the case of the Fourteenth Amendment, were arrived at through hair splitting and sophistry and given for the express purpose of modifying, limiting, and even nullifying that amendment.

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON,
Secretary National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.
New York, June 25.

LODGE, IN PANIC, SEEKS NEGRO VOTE WITH A TRICK BILL.

New York Age 7-8-22

This slant taken by the "World" may be easily explained. The "World" has all along been against the Anti-Lynching Bill, and the "World" is also the bitterest newspaper enemy that Senator Lodge has in the country.

The Anti-Lynching Bill is in no sense a trick bill. It is a piece of legislation genuinely proposed to remedy a great evil. In the petition presented to the Senate some weeks ago, the prompt enactment of this Bill was urged by twenty-four governors of states, one-half the governors of the country; a large number of bishops, churchmen, editors, college presidents and eminent citizens; but more particularly to the point, this petition was signed by nineteen justices of supreme and superior courts in the various states, a judge of a United States Circuit Court, two former United States attorneys general, and a number of other learned jurists. These men would not have signed a petition urging the prompt enactment of a piece of legislation which they did not consider sound.

But the "World" evidently intends to convey the impression that it is a trick Bill because the Republicans are merely going to dangle it before the eyes of colored voters until after election is over and then let it die. This same argument was used when the Bill was introduced in the House of the present Congress. When the House Judiciary Committee reported it, the same set of critics said the House would never pass it. When the House passed it, these same critics said it would die in the Senate Committee on the Judiciary. Now that the Senate Judiciary Committee has favorably reported the Bill they declare that the Bill will never get any further. Since these critics have been proved wrong on all their other predictions there is no reason why their present prediction should be taken as gospel.

This writer firmly believes that if the colored people, the colored organizations and the colored press can keep up the same united and intelligent effort for the passage of this Bill which they have up to now maintained, the Bill will be finally enacted and signed by the President.

Several weeks ago we said that we would in a subsequent issue discuss the constitutionality of this measure, because there are even some colored people who are lay constitutional lawyers that are expressing doubts about the constitutionality of the measure. We hope to be able next week to take up that phase of the question.